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# ARAB TIMES

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## Kuwait, Riyadh ink zone accord

KUWAIT, Aug. 20. (KUNA): Kuwait and Saudi Arabia exchanged today instruments of ratification of the agreement signed by the two countries on the property of their citizens in the divided zone.  
The exchange instruments were signed for Kuwait by Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Sulaiman Majed Al Shaheen and the Saudi Ambassador in Kuwait Sheikh Abdullah Al Sudairi signed on behalf of his government.  
The agreement was signed in Riyadh in November last year.  
Acting director of the legal department at the Foreign Ministry Dhirar Rzuoni attended the signing ceremony.



**New frontiers**  
Several hundred East Germans arrived at crowded West German refugee camps today, one day after they used a picnic on the Austro-Hungarian border as a cover to flee to the West.  
West German government officials said that by mid-afternoon about 500 East Germans had come by chartered trains and buses from Vienna to the main transit camp in Glessen north of Frankfurt and to another camp near Nuremberg.  
They were among 661 East Germans who the officials said had shown up at the West German embassy in Vienna yesterday after using a picnic on the Hungarian border to flee into Austria.  
East German refugees push through a partly open gate on the Austro-Hungarian border. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Hostages to pay if France steps in

BEIRUT, Aug. 20. (Agencies): The Revolutionary Justice Organisation, which holds two American hostages, said today their lives would be at stake if the French Navy intervenes in Lebanon.  
The pro-Iranian underground group of Shiite Muslim extremists made the threat in a statement delivered to the independent newspaper An Nahar and a Western news agency in Beirut after night-fall.  
The handwritten statement in Arabic was accompanied by a photograph of the most recent snapshot released by the kidnappers of American hostage Edward Austin Tracy on Aug. 1.  
"America, which is sparing France, should realize that any foolhardiness by the French fleet will expose the life of its hostages to danger," the statement said.  
"Therefore, this factor should be taken into consideration."  
France has dispatched the aircraft carrier Foch and the destroyer Duquesne to the eastern Mediterranean, ostensibly to evacuate some 7,000 French nationals from war-torn Lebanon if the need arises.  
But Muslim leaders, including the Hezbollah, have voiced fears that France might be preparing for a military intervention to help Christian forces in the current civil war confrontation with the Syrian Army and its Muslim allies.  
"Once again France enters the East as an enemy of the oppressed people and unmask its treacherous face at a time when we imagined it has learnt the bitter past and will not repeat the experiment," said the 21-line statement.  
"But recent events have proven that France's rulers have forgotten the lessons and still insist on following the American criminal policies aimed at confronting the rightful aspirations of the persecuted people in the region," the statement added.  
"The Revolutionary Justice Organisation, which has pledged itself to the defence of the rights of the oppressed, will not allow France to intervene in the region under any pretext," the statement added.  
It threatened strikes into "the depth of the French strategic security" and said "our responses will not be confined to circumstantial frameworks because all means of pressure are available and all options are open."  
(Continued on Page 7, Col. 8)

## General defects: An Afghan Army general who once directed President Najib's personal security force said on Sunday that he had defected, and claimed the Kabul government cannot survive without Soviet aid.

Maj. Gen. Mohammad Farouk Zari, 39, brother of Afghanistan's former UN Ambassador Farid Zari, appeared Sunday at the Pakistani headquarters of Afghan anti-communist rebels. He is the highest ranking former military officer the insurgents have ever presented publicly.  
Western diplomats in Peshawar, near the Pakistani border with Afghanistan, confirmed the man was Zari and that he had been a key security officer. The diplomats spoke on condition of not being identified.  
Zari said he fled the war-torn country in June after serving 18 months as chief of the 2,000-strong government security force, which is the palace guard and protects other top Afghan officials.  
His brother, Farid, is considered one of Najib's closest advisers. (AP)

## Uneasy calm: Uneasy calm and tension prevailed on Sunday in large parts of central and western districts of Karachi where a fresh wave of violence on Saturday left at least 13 people dead and 50 others injured in armed clashes between rival political groups and police.

Three contingents of the army troops and para-military rangers besides riot police were patrolling the two districts, most of which were under indefinite curfew since Saturday night.  
The curfew-bound areas were Nazimabad, Paposh Nagar, Pak colony, Gulbazar, Liaquat Abad and Aurangabad, predominantly inhabited by Urdu speaking mohajir community, politically controlled by the organisation Mohajir Qasmi Movement (MQM).  
Though the commissioner of Karachi in a press note last night mentioned five deaths in shoot-outs between rival groups and between groups and police and rangers, unofficial reports put the death-toll from six to 14 with 30 injured. But according to reliable unofficial reports the number of killed was 11 and those injured 30, of whom 10 were let off after fine and in hospitals.  
Three houses, one brush-making factory and nine vehicles were burnt by rioters as they went on the rampage in the troubled area. (KUNA) (See Page 2)

## Im under custody

South Korean student Im Su-Kyong being escorted to a police station after she was formally arrested by the Agency for National Security Planning yesterday. Im is charged with breaching the National Security Law after her illegal trip to North Korea. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Grenade attack: Assaulters threw a grenade into a crowd attending a dance in a southern village, killing at least eight people and wounding 57, officials said on Sunday.

The military said two civilian militiamen were taken into custody after the attack late Saturday in the village of Kidandan in Santa Maria town, about 640 miles (990 kilometers) south of Manila.  
Maj. Francisco Arquillano, deputy provincial constabulary commander of Davao del Sur, said four children were among those killed when the grenade exploded during the dance and coronation programme for a local beauty queens. (AP)

## Woman detained: Customs police on Sunday detained an American woman at the Manila airport after they found guns and ammunition in her baggage, authorities said.

The woman was identified as Dominique Adams, 22, of Salt Lake City, Utah. She arrived on a Philippine Airlines flight from Los Angeles.  
Police said six metal boxes containing pistols of assorted calibres and ammunition were found in Adams' baggage. (UPI)

## Cairo cracks sabotage cell

Extremists planned coup; attacks on Kuwaiti, Saudi interests

CAIRO, Aug. 20. (Reuters): Police have rounded up a group of Muslim militants suspected of plotting a coup in Egypt and sabotaging foreign interests, Attorney-General Gamal Shoman said today.  
He said police arrested 41 Shiite Muslims and were hunting 16 others suspected of planning to topple President Hosni Mubarak and to attack the interests in Egypt of Iraq, Israel, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the United States.  
Shoman told a news conference that most of the suspects were trained in sabotage in Syria, Iran, Cyprus and India over the past two years.  
They planned to launch an Iranian-style Islamic revolution in Egypt with the intention of toppling the existing government, he said.  
He said the group had 57 members. Shoman said the group comprised 52 Egyptians, four Saudi Shiites and one Iranian. The 41 detained on Aug. 2 were Egyptians, mainly university professors, doctors or students.  
Investigations were continuing and no formal charges had yet been made, he said.  
One of the Egyptians, identified as Sayed Fahmi Shenawi, went to Iran to join the medical team which treated the late Iranian supreme leader Ayatollah Khomeini, Shoman said.  
The Saudis and the Iranian organised the group into provincial cells, and assigned members to military training and indoctrination sessions. They also funded the organisation with tens of thousands of dollars.  
Shoman said the organisation was founded in 1985 by four extremist Muslims who were later introduced to a Saudi Arabian with the code-name of Abu Iman, or Mohammed Hassan Ramadan Al Awadi, a resident of Damascus.  
"Investigations showed that Abu Iman visited Egypt often... to assign members to military and cultural training abroad aimed at creating unrest in Egypt and at preparing them to carry out an Islamic revolution similar to the Iranian revolution," Shoman said.  
He did not mention whether the alleged Shiite organisation had actually attempted any violent acts, but said explosives, hand grenades and other arms were found in possession of the defendants.  
An estimated 2,000 Islamic militants have been jailed in Egypt in the past five months on various charges including attempted murder and inciting violence.

## Thames tragedy

60 feared drowned in collision

LONDON, Aug. 20. (Agencies): Up to 60 partygoers were feared drowned today after a dredger sliced into a pleasure boat and sank it on London's River Thames.  
Police said the sinking shortly before 2 am in the heart of London could be the worst on the waterway for a century.  
As many as 150 people — most of them in the 20s — were on the blue and white pleasure boat Marchioness for a river cruise birthday party. By late this afternoon police sources said 20 bodies had been recovered, including that of a woman swept eight miles (13 km) upstream by the fast incoming tide.  
"You're talking about a boat that weighs 90 tonnes in a collision with a vessel that weighs 3,000 tonnes," said Ken Dwan, director of Tidal Cruises which owned the disco boat Marchioness. "It's like a tank running over a Mini."  
Police said 89 passengers were rescued after the Marchioness cruiser was cut in half by the sand and gravel dredger Bowbelle. It sank in less than a minute in 25 feet (eight metres) of water between Southwark and Blackfriars bridges in Central London.  
"There could easily be 60 casualties," said police commander Tony Speed, revising an estimate of 30 feared dead. He told a news conference the Marchioness was permitted to carry 149 passengers and two crew.  
The disaster could turn out to be the worst on the Thames since more than 700 drowned in 1878 when a pleasure boat was rammed by an iron steamer.  
A Tidal Cruises spokeswoman said the boat was hired to celebrate the birthday of Antonio Vascantellas, identified by British press reports as a Portuguese banker. He

By late this afternoon, salvage crews had raised the mangled wreckage of half of the Marchioness. The level of the river was kept low to help the salvage operation after authorities downstream closed the Thames barrier that protects London from flooding.  
Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, cut short a holiday in Austria, went to the disaster scene and said it was a "tragedy of the first order."  
Queen Elizabeth sent a message of sympathy to the victims and their families.  
The captain and second mate, of the Bowbelle, were arrested and tested for drink but police would not say what the results were. Five other crew members were being questioned as witnesses. An earlier report said all seven had been arrested.  
According to the rules of the river, vessels must stay to their right to avoid collision. Police said they were launching a criminal investigation into the sinking.  
Boat snaps in two (See Page 2)

## N-tech diverted to subcontinent

Bonn initiates probe

BONN, Aug. 20. (AP): Federal prosecutors are investigating a West German company that allegedly bought sensitive US nuclear technology and shipped it to Pakistan and India, a US magazine has reported.  
The NTG Neue Technologien company of Gelnhausen has been under investigation for suspected illegal exports since last year, and investigators plan to seek assistance from the US Justice Department, according to Nuclear Fuel, a biweekly magazine published by McGraw-Hill Inc.  
NTG "systematically sought, and in some cases obtained, technology from US companies for nuclear-related programmes in Pakistan and India over the past few years," the magazine reported.  
It said NTG officials had refused to discuss the allegations or West Germany's investigation into its export dealings.  
Nuclear Fuel reported that investigators have determined that NTG acted as a procuring agent for illegal nuclear exports to Pakistan and India.  
It said NTG bought two high-powered lasers in the United States and obtained export permission by saying they were for use in West Germany.  
The US company that sold NTG the lasers, Coherent General of Sturbridge, Massachusetts, obtained an export permit for the sale on condition that NTG would be the end user and that the lasers would remain in West Germany, the magazine said.  
Shipment of such technology to the sub-continent would be outlawed under US Commerce Department regulations, the magazine said. It would also violate the international nuclear non-proliferation treaty.  
The magazine said the laser systems were shipped by NTG to Frankfurt in December 1986, and re-exported to Margalla Enterprises in Karachi, Pakistan, two weeks later. Margalla is a purchasing agent for the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission, Nuclear Fuel said it was told by sources involved in the investigation.  
Nuclear Fuel said it has examined financial records in West Germany that showed that NTG was paid DM786,000 (\$425,000), nearly three times the US sales price of the laser systems, by the Pakistani purchasing agents.

## Extend passport validity: Arafat

AMMAN, Aug. 20. (AP): PLO chairman Yasser Arafat today urged Jordan to lift a restriction imposed last year limiting Palestinians on the Israeli-occupied West Bank to two-year passports. Palestinian officials said.  
The officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the request came in meetings with King Hussein and Prime Minister Zeid Bin Shaker shortly after Arafat arrived in Amman.  
A senior PLO official said the Jordanians agreed to study the request.  
West Bank residents were considered full Jordanians, eligible for five-year passports, until last July, when Hussein renounced claim to the West Bank in favour of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.  
The PLO generally applauded the king's decision, which removed a key source of rivalry. But Jordanian steps to enact it aggravated the hardships of many West Bankers already strained by the 20-month uprising against Israel.  
The senior PLO official said the decision to reduce the length of passports was causing problems for students studying abroad and anxiety for many other Palestinian-Jordanians.  
Jordanians generally must return to Amman to renew passports — a sometimes difficult process for students in Europe or America or for West Bank Palestinians whose movement is restricted by Israeli security measures.  
Arafat had been expected to formally inaugurate a new headquarters building for the PLO's treasury, the Palestine National Fund, which is moving to Jordan from the United Arab Emirates.  
The fund has returned to Amman after a three-year absence, which began when a dispute over peace efforts led Jordan to close down many PLO offices. The rift was largely healed by Hussein's announcement last year.

## DO employees at Arab airports need training to handle baggage?

This question is being asked because passengers quite often complain that luggage handlers of some airlines mishandle baggage resulting in damage. Many of these travel bags are expensive as the traveller intends to use them repeatedly.  
Passengers who have had these unfortunate experiences wonder whether luggage is mishandled at other airports in the world too — or is it confined to the irresponsible behaviour of Arab airline employees only?  
**Zahed Matar**

## Palestinian women issue 'mayday' call

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Aug. 20. (Reuters): An underground Palestinian women's group is circulating a leaflet calling for an end to Islamic fundamentalist attacks on Christian and secular Muslim women in East Jerusalem and the Israeli-occupied territories.  
The clandestine leaflet, titled "mayday mayday mayday" and signed by the Women's Council for Palestine, said Muslim radicals stoned and cursed women they considered improperly dressed.  
"Weak souls acting in the name of Islamic custom and tradition... (are)... throwing eggs, stones, paint and many other things and using dirty words which Islam forbids," it said.

## 'Thief' may still steal the show

NEW DELHI, Aug. 20. (Reuters): India's Parliament rang recently to chants of "Rajiv Gandhi is a thief" but strident opposition efforts to make corruption charges stick appear to have done nothing to dent the prime minister's popularity.  
Despite allegations of payoffs in a major arms deal, Rajiv's personal appeal over opposition leader Vishwanath Pratap Singh has gone up instead of down since February, according to an opinion poll in the India Today news magazine.  
There is no wholesale rejection of Rajiv. People like the prime minister but not his party, Delhi political analyst Barbed Sen Gupta said.  
"A lot of urban people feel that Rajiv has protected people that are guilty. Very few people believe that he is personally corrupt."  
Rajiv, who celebrated his 45th birthday today, must call a national parliamentary election by the end of December.  
If held now, the magazine poll shows Congress (I) party would have a fair chance of another five years in power.  
Against a divided opposition, it forecasts Rajiv would win a much reduced, but still absolute, majority. Only complete unity among fractious opposition groups spanning the political spectrum from the communists to right-wing Hindus could deny Congress victory.  
There is little semblance of that unity at present, with Singh's Janata Dal party riven with dissent.  
Even a combined opposition would probably fall short of the 272 Lok Sabha (lower house) seats needed to gain an absolute majority and form only the second non-Congress government since independence in 1947, India Today said.  
Sen Gupta, an academic at the independent centre for policy research said "One thing is clear."  
"After the elections there will be no imperial prime minister in this country. Whoever is prime minister will be curbed by a very reduced majority and the opposition will be very strong."  
Former newspaper editor Pran Chopra predicted a slim majority for Rajiv but said he believed the election would be followed by a period of troubled politics and damaging rifts between the central and state governments.  
The India Today poll was taken in late July, coinciding with an opposition decision to resign en masse from the Lok Sabha in protest at alleged corruption.  
They walked out after the government's auditor and comptroller-general detailed serious lapses in the way the Swedish Bofors Company was selected for a \$1.3 billion contract to supply the Indian Army with field guns.  
Widespread allegations that commissions were paid to middlemen over the contract dented the government's standing last year and the auditor's report looked like reviving the issue in the run-up to elections.  
Even though voters polled in 30 of the country's 542 constituencies said corruption was the most serious issue facing the nation after prices, Rajiv's personal honesty rating has gone up.  
Sixty per cent of the 10,399 people surveyed said they believed Rajiv was honest, two per cent up since February. By comparison, Singh's rating dropped three points to 28 per cent.  
Chopra said he believed the opposition made a serious error in trying to link Rajiv directly with the Bofors payoffs and instead should have targeted the government as a whole.



## INTERNATIONAL

## Pipe blast kills 2 in New York

NEW YORK, Aug. 20, (UPI): Two people were killed and 18 were injured yesterday in a high pressure steam pipe explosion that blew a 20-foot hole in a Manhattan street and sent a geyser of steam 10 stories into the air, officials said.

The blast occurred in a 24-inch steam main as a crew of four Con Edison workers were trying to turn on the line, which had been shut off because of a nearby water break earlier in the day, a Con Ed spokesman said.

"There was a taxi out there and the taxi's all in pieces. There's rubble all over the street. There's a hole in street you could sink a car into," said Robert Ambrose, a resident of a building near the site of the blast.

The Con Ed spokesman said the blast may have been caused by the hot pipe coming into contact with the cold water from the broken mains, but said it could be several days before the reason the pipe burst is confirmed.

The jet of steam tore through the street, tearing a 20-foot wide hole in the pavement and sidewalk and showering cobbles and debris, witnesses said. Most of the people who were injured suffered from burns, but at least two had heart attacks, one of which was fatal, Parilla said.

Gitten said the steam is used for heating, to run motors and to power air conditioners.

Evacuees from the building were to spend the night at the New York Police Academy, which is a few blocks from the site of the explosion, Parilla said.

Officials evacuated people from area buildings, including an 18-storey apartment building next to the explosion site.

## NEWS IN BRIEF



Showing capability

A special M-3 transport plane carries an 8m-diameter external fuel tank for the Soviet giant launcher 'Energy' during an airshow at Tushino airfield near Moscow on Sunday. (Reuter wire-photo)

### Train derailed

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 20, (UPI): A Havana-bound passenger train derailed and plunged into a river yesterday, leaving 15 passengers dead and injuring 219 others in the second major rail accident in two weeks, Cuba's official news agency said.

The accident occurred in the southeastern province of Guantanamo 540 miles (870 km) east of Havana. Prensa Latina said in a dispatch monitored in Mexico City.

The Guantánamo-Havana route train was about an hour into its trip north when four of the 15 passenger cars derailed and plunged off an 80-foot-high (24-m-high) bridge into the Jaibo river at 11.00 am killing 15 people and injuring 219, the dispatch said.

The cause of the derailment was not disclosed.

### Fire rages

ATHENS, Greece, Aug. 20, (AP): A wildfire raging since Thursday on the popular northern Aegean resort island of Thassos continued to devastate thick pine forests yesterday and officials pinned their only hopes on strong winds abating.

"The main front of the fire is heading for the peak of Ipsari and we hope that it will stop there when the wind dies down," said Thassos Forestry Department spokeswoman Ioanna Dalahoura in a telephone interview.

Mount Ipsari, with an altitude of 1,200 metres (3,960 feet) is the highest peak on the island.

The weather bureau, though, forecast that winds in the northern Aegean would remain "moderate to strong" today.

### 8 killed in Spain

ALICANTE, Spain, Aug. 20, (Reuters): Eight people died when a car taking fireworks to a wedding exploded in a supermarket car park in the Spanish resort of Alicante yesterday, an Interior Ministry spokesman said.

The powerful blast in the packed Mediterranean tourist town injured 27 people. Police said the casualties were shoppers, passers-by taking an evening stroll and people making calls from a nearby row of public telephones.

The owner of a fireworks factory told police his son, who died in the blast, was driving to a wedding with a carload of fireworks. It was not clear why he stopped at the supermarket.

Police initially suspected the explosion was an attack by the guerrilla group ETA (Basque Homeland and Freedom) which set off a car bomb in a supermarket car park in Barcelona two years ago, killing 21 shoppers.

### Car bomb kills 5

ALICANTE, Spain, Aug. 20, (AP): A car bomb set by Basque separatists exploded outside a supermarket near this southeastern port yesterday, killing five people and injuring at least 30 others, a paramilitary civil guard spokesman said.

The civil guard spokesman, who was not identified under standing regulations, said those killed in the blast, which occurred at 8.30 am local time (1830 GMT), included a mother and her 5-year-old child, another child, a woman, and an older man.

Spokesmen for ETA, which seeks self-determination for the three-province northern Spanish Basque country, called two Alicante newspapers to claim responsibility for the blast.

The car bomb explosion in the French-owned Pryca supermarket parking lot knocked down passersby. Flying shrapnel injured at least 30 people, he said.

### Official visit

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Aug. 20, (AP): Israel's Religious Affairs Minister Zevulun Hammer left for Poland on an official visit, saying he will be discussing the removal of a Roman Catholic convent next to the Auschwitz concentration camp.

Hammer's week-long visit is the first official visit by an Israeli minister since the two countries restored diplomatic ties in 1986 after nearly two decades.

Hammer said he will be meeting President Wojciech Jaruzelski as well as church officials and members of the Jewish community.

He told Israel radio that he will bring Jaruzelski a special message from Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, but neither he nor a spokesman for Shamir would provide any details.



Pleasure cruiser Marchioness sinks after being rammed by the 2,000 tonne gravel barge Bowbelle and (below) the undated file picture of Marchioness. (Reuter wirephoto)



'You had no time at all after the jolt'

## Boat snaps in two

LONDON, Aug. 20, (AP): Survivors said they were celebrating a friend's 26th birthday aboard the Marchioness pleasure boat early today when they felt a jolt and the vessel began to sink.

Within minutes — some say only seconds — the chartered boat was beneath the River Thames.

The night was fine and warm, and many voyagers were mingling on the open decks of the Marchioness. They jumped or were thrown overboard when the pleasure boat was rammed from behind by a 260-foot (80-metre) dredger and broke in half.

But other guests, disco-dancing below deck, were probably trapped when the 80-ton boat disappeared below the dark, swiftly-flowing water just before 2 am (0100 GMT), authorities said.

### Dived

The boat, chartered for a five-hour river cruise, had left Charing Cross pier about 30 minutes earlier, and was downstream just beyond Southwark bridge in London's financial district when disaster struck.

Art student Mike Musbacher, 22, said he dived through an open window on the top deck when he saw the sand dredger Bowbelle heading toward the party boat.

"It hit us in the side, smashed into us and went straight over us," Musbacher said. "I dived out of the window. The people downstairs, there's no way they would have got out."

Survivor Piers Allen said the dredger "just nudged us, and we all thought it was going to go past. But our boat went down in about 30 seconds."

"It was a private birthday party and I had been standing on the front of the deck with many other people," Allen said. "We were jettisoned into the water. It was very, very frightening. People were screaming and shouting and holding on to pieces of wood."

Nick Hastings, 34, a journalist of AP-Dow Jones, was also standing on the bow, and jumped clear of the boat.

"You had no time at all, in between the jolt, the screams," he said. "Somebody said 'we're going over,' and we were going over."

"All of a sudden there was a slight bump and a scream and I turned around and all I saw was just an enormous hulk of the dredger behind us, directly behind us. It had obviously hit this boat at the back and it was pushing the boat off slightly to the side," said Hastings.

As it pushed the boat, the boat just started to tip over and it just tipped ... incredibly quickly ... in seconds."

Some survivors, like 29-year-old Rod Lay, said they don't know how they escaped.

"People were inside dancing and we were out on the front," he said. "Suddenly the boat lurched to the side, everyone fell about, and there was this huge ship right behind us. Suddenly it rammed again, and the whole thing was run over, and we were underneath the water."

"It seemed like a long time," he

said of the moments spend trying to reach the surface after being hurled under water with the capsizing boat.

Two disc jockeys travelling on another boat, the Harlesden, said the Marchioness sank in 30 seconds.

"We heard a loud cracking noise and people shouting," said Rob Elliott. "We saw people in the water, about 50 or 60. Some people were on the boat as it was sinking. It was smashed to bits and it sank straight down within seconds. I don't know what happened to the people on it."

"The people on the Harlesden were going crazy. They were shouting 'let us off, let us off.' I think they thought we were going to sink too. We called to the skipper on our boat to stop and reverse so we could pick people up."

Fellow disc jockey Robert

Apampa said the Marchioness was broken in half.

"It just went down in half a minute," he said. "We pulled out about 20 or 30 people. All we could do was to see that they were all right and cover them in jackets. There wasn't much we could do."

Annette Russell, 26, who runs a modelling agency, was standing on the deck of the Marchioness and was dragged under the boat by the current before swimming to safety.

Wrapped in a towel and shaking, she said: "Everyone had been quite relaxed. People were chatting and dancing to the music."

"It all happened terribly quickly," she said. "I dived off the side. The tide took me underneath the boat, and out the other side. There was no time to get hold of any lifejackets."



A diver emerges from the River Thames during a search for bodies in the wreckage. (Reuter wirephoto)

## 13 die; Karachi under curfew

KARACHI, Aug. 20, (Reuters): Pakistani troops enforced a curfew in three areas of riot-prone Karachi today, after a day of violence in which at least 13 people died.

Hospital doctors said the dead, and 32 injured, came from three of the warring ethnic groups which frequently turn parts of the city of seven million into a battleground.

Yesterday's trouble involved mohajirs, Muslims who migrated to Pakistan on the partition of the sub-continent in 1947.

It began when youths in a mixed-race suburb threw stones at a woman going to a rally organised by a Punjabi-Pakistani Association, representing people originally from north and central Pakistan who have clashed repeatedly with mohajirs.

Later youths burned tyres in the streets and opened fire with assault rifles on police and city officials when they came to investigate, police said.

At least one policeman was among the dead. Other victims, including a woman of about 40, were apparently caught in the crossfire, the doctors said. Many of the 32 injured were hit by bullets, while some had wounds from knives and stones.

Cars and shops were set alight and looted.

At least 950 people have been killed since late 1986 in ethnic rioting in Pakistan's biggest city and nearby

towns in Sindh province.

Mohajir militants, who say their community suffers discrimination, have fought bitter battles with Punjabis, and more recently with native Sindhis.

The Islamic Jamhoori Ittehad government in Punjab has issued warrants of arrest of executive editor, daily Maashiq, Lahore for printing objectionable articles against Ittefaq Foundry, which is owned by provincial Chief Minister Nawaz Sharif.

Syed Mumtaz, the pro-Pakistan Peoples Party editor of the newspaper, failed to appear before a Lahore court on Aug 8 in connection with a suit filed by the Ittefaq lawyer Babar Shafi.

Aziz Mazhar, the chief editor of the newspaper, which is owned by government-controlled National Press Trust in Islamabad, was also summoned in the same case but he appeared before the court yesterday and filed a bail petition.

The PPP government at the centre has already arrested pro-PPP editor Zahid Malik of local English evening paper Pakistan Observer under the Official Secrets Act. He was taken under custody by Islamabad police earlier this month for writing a book "Doctor Abdul Qadeer Khan and Islamic bomb" in which he divulged some state secrets.

## Lanka, radicals in peace dialogue

COLOMBO, Aug. 20, (AP): Sri Lanka's prime minister today announced the government has begun negotiations with an array of radical groups to end violence associated with the two-year-old Sinhalese uprising.

Prime Minister Dingiri Banda Wijetunga made the announcement on state-run television and radio, saying that bloodletting in the once-peaceful island nation could not resolve the demands of any group.

At least 4,000 people have been killed since Sinhalese ultra-nationalists began a campaign against the Sinhalese-dominated government in July 1987. The insurgency started as a protest to government overtures made to rebels from the minority Tamil community.

Wijetunga's broadcast came as sources in the government said the ruling United National Party and opposition groups would make a joint appeal to the radicals next week to end the violence.

President Ranasinghe Premadasa on Thursday appealed to radicals to call a weeklong ceasefire as the first step to negotiations.

He made the appeal in a meeting with political leaders considered close to the radicals, but there has been no response.

Sinhalese radicals have demanded abrogation of a 1987 agreement between India and Sri Lanka under which limited autonomy was offered to Tamil communities and Indian soldiers were posted in the Tamil-majority North and East of the island to enforce the plan.

Meanwhile, Sri Lankan military officials and a spokesman at the Indian High Commission said at least 33 people were killed in violence yesterday and today.

The Sinhalese campaign of violence caused 23 of the deaths and Indian troops reportedly killed 10 Tamil rebels and captured another 10 in that conflict, according to Sri Lankan and Indian government officials.

In an early morning incident in the northwestern port district of Trincomalee, a booby-trap device triggered by members of the guerrilla group Liberation Tigers and Tamil Eelam detonated near a public well, killing two civilians and a Sri Lankan policeman, authorities said.

The explosion near China Bay also critically wounded four civilians, one policeman and three Indian soldiers.

In an unrelated incident in the northern Vavuniya district, separatist guerrillas exploded a make-shift bomb, killing eight civilians and critically wounding four others on Friday, the official said.

The device was exploded under a farm vehicle transporting civilians, he said.

A Sri Lankan atomic scientist has warned the potential dangers two nuclear plants in the process of being installed in south India pose for the Indian-Ocean island.

Dr Granville Dharmawardena, director of the radio isotope centre of the Colombo University has said that any leakage from the nuclear stations in neighbouring south India, which separates it from the northern most point of the island by a 20-mile sea stretch, Palk Strait, will have disastrous effects on Sri Lanka.

Sri Lankan students are in line to receive several scholarships from the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) in Saudi Arabia, the Islamic Centre in Colombo said.

Dr Mohamed Siddiq, head of the scholarship office of the IDB in Jeddah, is in Sri Lanka at the invitation of Speaker of Parliament M.H. Mohamed to discuss the scholarship programme, a centre spokesman said.

### Agreement delayed

### Dhaka short of condoms

DHAKA, Aug. 20, (Reuters): A Bangladeshi newspaper said today the overpopulated country had almost run out of condoms and its main supplier had delayed renewal of an agreement.

The Bengali-language daily Inquilab said prices of condoms still available from fast-depleting stocks had doubled since the 1988 agreement with USAID expired in February.

It said the delayed renewal could jeopardise government efforts to cut population growth rate to 1.6 per cent by the end of the century, from 2.4 per cent at present.

USAID officials were not available for comment. Official figures show more than 150 million condoms, most popular birth control method in this overwhelmingly Muslim nation of 110 million, were distributed in 1988, mostly free.

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# Forbes hosts \$3 million birthday bash

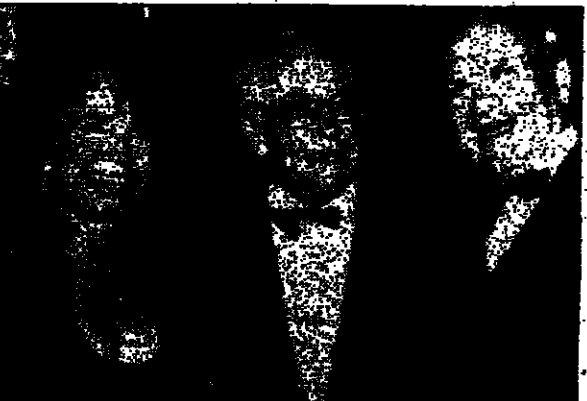
## Nearly 1,000 movers and shakers join the fun



British newspaper magnate Robert Maxwell, left, dressed in traditional Moroccan garb and Forbes, dressed in a Scottish kilt, are shown after Maxwell arrived for the birthday bash. (Reuters wirephoto)



Forbes offers Taylor the first piece of his dome-topped birthday cake while hundreds of guests at his party wait their turn. (Reuters wirephoto)



US Chrysler Corp. Chairman Lee Iacocca, right, and his companion Darrien Earl are welcomed by Forbes to the festivities. (Reuters wirephoto)

TANGIERS, Morocco, Aug. 20, (AP): Magazine publisher Malcolm Forbes hosted a \$3 million birthday bash for himself last night, flying in guests on the Concorde and treating them to Moroccan hospitality.

In a Forbes clan kilt, Forbes stood at the end of the receiving line, shaking hands with each guest.

Guests lined up to pass security and draw lots for their assignments to one of several tents. At one point, the line grew to more than 137 metres (150 yards) and took more than 40 minutes to pass through the gates of the Chateau Mendoub, Forbes' Tangiers residence.

Hundreds of Moroccan dancers and singers entertained the guests as they waited.

Morocco's King Hassan II did not attend the festivities but sent two of his sons as representatives. Others on the guest list were former US President Jimmy Carter, former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, former King Constantine of Greece and Simeon of Bulgaria, and countless captains of industry.

### Concorde

Most of the nearly 1,000 guests were flown in from New York to Tangiers Friday on three jets, including a supersonic Concorde.

Tangiers' main thoroughfare was closed to all but partygoers hours before the affair began. Uniformed armed guards and plainclothes men were on duty early on the six-lane (15-acre) garden of Forbes' mansion.

The chateau, purchased in 1971 from a former royal governor of Tangier, stands on a cliff overlooking the Mediterranean and the Straits of Gibraltar. Yesterday midsummer heat obscured the view of the European mainland.

Forbes took more than 100 journalists around the garden for a last-minute glimpse of the arrangements, including elaborately furnished tents where guests would be treated to Moroccan specialties, belly-dancing, fireworks, and dancing until dawn.

Actress Elizabeth Taylor, who has been Forbes' companion since his 39-year marriage ended in divorce in 1985, appeared later.

### Wish

Forbes said his greatest birthday wish was "to live to be around to have many more of the things she gave me. The greatest of those is her passion for men."

Reporters asked Forbes how he could justify giving himself such an opulent party, estimated to cost more than \$3 million amid the poverty of Morocco.

"You don't defend it," Forbes replied. "We probably all do things in our lives that are not essential. I don't feel guilty about it. I feel grateful we can do it."

"The catering costs considerably less than it would in the West," he said. Catering manager Abdelkrim Timsamani said the total catering bill would come to less than \$750,000.

A total of 100 sheep, 600 chickens and 1,500 eggs went into the dishes of the menu.

"Everything will be Moroccan," Forbes said.



Taylor and Forbes pose in front of the Forbes Palace Saturday in Morocco as the couple leaves on a shopping trip. (Reuters wirephoto)

## PEOPLE AND PLACES

NEW YORK, Aug. 20, (UPI): Two art thieves posing as policeman conned their way into the Queens apartment of a 67-year-old art restorer, then handcuffed him while they stole \$4 million in artwork from his walls, police said Sunday.

Vlasko Ionescu, a painter and well-known restorer of paintings, answered a knock on the door of his apartment in the Jackson Heights section Friday night and found two men who identified themselves as cops, said police spokesman Sgt. Peter Barry.

The men persuaded Ionescu to allow them into the apartment. Once inside, they pulled out guns, knocked Ionescu to the floor, handcuffed him as he lay face down, and covered him with a blanket.

As he lay helplessly, the two men stripped the walls and stole other artworks Ionescu had been restoring, grabbing a total of 50 artworks, Barry said. (UPI).

MEXICO CITY: The apparently sex-related slaying of two Americans in Acapulco is under investigation by police, judicial sources said Saturday.

The two victims were identified as Arthur Nathan Weiner, 46, of New York, reported to be a millionaire operator of a chain of health clubs, and Edward Merdock 1st Jr., 35, of Delaware, apparently a guest at Weiner's home.

The two men were killed Thursday night at Weiner's home, a villa in Sausalito, Acapulco, 180 miles (290 km) south of Mexico City, the judicial sources said.

Police are seeking two unidentified gunmen who fled after the killings in a car that was on the premises of Weiner's villa.

US Embassy spokeswoman Judith Greenspan said American officials had no information on the case. (UPI).

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, Wyoming: Heavy rain unleashed mudslides that buried a car, temporarily trapped eight others and caused flooding that chased 55 tourists from their rented cabin, park officials said Saturday.

The mudslides took place about 8 pm Friday (0300 GMT Saturday) on a stretch of road below slopes denuded by the huge forest fires that swept the park in the summer of 1988.

One car was buried, but its occupants escaped uninjured, said park spokeswoman Joan Asmus. Eight vehicles were stranded for about 2-3 hours in Gibbon Canyon after 13 mudslides, the spokeswoman said. They were on a stretch of road 15 to 25 miles (24 to 40 kilometres) from the west entrance of the park. The same area had been hit by mudslides earlier this month. (AP).

SIOUX FALLS, South Dakota: More than a century after American Indian Chief Red Cloud refused to sign a treaty allowing a road through Indian territory, the Pine Ridge Reservation is getting a spotlight.

"The Pine Ridge Reservation will remain the land of Chief Red Cloud, but it will have a spotlight," said G. Wayne Tapio, mayor of Pine Ridge village.

Tapio said the light, to be installed at the intersection of state highway 407 and US Highway 18, reflects progress.

"We are progressing and we have to grow with the flow of traffic," he said.

Pine Ridge village is a community of 5,000 people in southwestern South Dakota. Traffic from outlying towns increases the risk of accidents during busy times of day, Tapio said. (AP).

RENO, Nevada: Two-Time Tour de France champion Greg Lemond who was shot in the abdomen in a hunting accident in between his 1986 and 1989 cycling victories, has sold film rights to his dramatic comeback story.

Nobody is talking about how much money the 28-year-old cyclist got paid.

"That's something they don't talk about, at least they don't share that information with me," Doug Duleman, a vice-president for Warner Brothers Television, said Wednesday by telephone from Burbank, California.

Lawrence Lytle, an independent producer who will make the movie for Warner Brothers, said Tuesday that filming is expected to start next spring. The story of the Reno native is intended for broadcast during the 1990-91 television season. (AP).

SAN FRANCISCO: Baseball pitcher Dave Dravecky not only made a dramatic comeback from cancer surgery last week, but his stirring victory has helped a 6-year-old boy's fight against leukemia.

"It's just wonderful," said Isabelle Lesauve of radio station KNBR, which sponsored the fund-raiser that generated more than \$85,000 to pay for tests of 1,133 potential bone-marrow donors. "We expect to get more."

While making his return to baseball with the San Francisco Giants last Thursday, Dravecky urged donors to come forward for Alex Vlahov. Alex whose chances of survival depend on quickly locating a suitable marrow match, was at Candlestick Park for the game.

KNBR offered to donate \$5 for each of the 92 pitches thrown by Dravecky against the Cincinnati Reds in his 4-3 comeback win. (AP)

NEW YORK: Corporate raider Carl Icahn, the Rev. Jesse Jackson and Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama are getting together for a friendly takeover battle.

The simulated drama about a hostile raid will take place Sept. 21-23 at a conference on management in the 1990s by the World Management Council, the group said Tuesday. Also scheduled to attend the Manhattan conference are leveraged buyout specialist Henry Kravis former Federal Reserve chairman Paul Volcker, Italian industrialist Carlo De Benedetti and Texas oilman and corporate raider T. Boone Pickens.

In the mock takeover, Icahn will make a surprise hostile bid for a fictitious company headed by former Arco Inc. chairman Robert O. Anderson. Jackson is to be a board member, but he may switch to a more characteristic role as a shareholder rights defender or community figure, said John DeMol, president of the Management Council.

The takeover scenario is being developed by a case writer at the Harvard Business School, he said. (AP).

NASHVILLE, Tennessee: Soul singer Mica Paris says visitors would be surprised by the diversity of music she plays at home.

"I love rock, pop, soul and R-and-B (rhythm and blues), and because I like so many types of music, I try to put all types of music in my material," she said by telephone from her New York City apartment prior to a scheduled Nashville performance Wednesday night.

"If you came to my house, you'd say, 'Mica, what are you doing with these records?'" she said.

Paris, 20, became popular in England last year. Her debut album in the United States was released in April. (AP)

NEW YORK: What would you swap for a 1953 Mickey Mantle original? The Marriott Corp. paid \$110,000 Saturday as the Topps Company emptied its archives and put 35 years worth of rare cards, proofs and pictures on the auction block.

"Collection fever is at an all-time high in Yankees' plaques -- an original 1953 Mantle card is in our files which had never been seen," said Topps spokesman Norman Liss, explaining the company's decision to conduct the auction.

The No. 1-priced lot involved No. 7 in Yankees' plaques -- an original 1953 Mantle card used to create his cards for that season. The Marriott Corp. had a winning bid of \$110,000 said Liss.

The artwork for Willie Mays from that year went for \$80,000 also to Marriott, while the Jackie Robinson painting brought \$71,000 from an unidentified bidder. (AP).

WASHINGTON: The National Park Service is negotiating with the Soviet Union over the possibility of a jointly run international park astride the Bering Strait in Alaska and Siberia, it was reported here Saturday.

Park service officials will visit potential sites next month in the Siberian Far East, a frozen region of tundra and reindeer herds whose closest point is just 80 miles from Alaska's Seward peninsula. Soviet officials then will return with them to Alaska to study possibilities there.

The proposal, known around park service headquarters as "Glaciers and the Glaciers," still in its preliminary stages, and no boundaries have been drawn. Nor is it likely that tourists will soon begin lining up at the gates of an icebound Arctic wilderness where winter lasts a full eight months and the access is by chartered aircraft. (KUNA).

## Chief purges crime squad

# Cleaning house

LONDON, Aug. 20, (AP): A police chief has dismantled his entire major-crimes division in a sweeping purge that has sidelined more than 50 officers and detectives accused of fabricating confessions and tampering with evidence.

Many have applauded West Midlands chief constable Geoffrey Dear's direct attack on a problem that chronically disturbs judicial experts and puts policing in this country at odds with the traditional image of the benign British bobby.

But others say Dear, whose Birmingham-based force of 6,900 officers is England's second-largest, should have gone even further. Meanwhile, some worry that the biggest shakeup of an English police force since the 1970s will undermine public confidence in law enforcement.

"I do think it's a disaster because of the way in which it impacts on people's perception of what police do," police psychologist Ian McKenzie, a former superintendent, said in an interview.

After a weekend of reflection in a friend's country house, the 51-year-old Dear struck in dramatic fashion last Monday, dismantling the senior command of his 800-strong detective unit and his whole 20-member serious crime squad, and moving 53 officers to administrative jobs.

Other detectives will take over the work of the dismantled squad.

Dear also called in the west Yorkshire police to head disciplinary hearings that are likely to last several months. In an unusual move, he then went public with a series of newspaper interviews explaining his action.

"In those few hours, Dear did what no other chief constable has done before," former police chief John Stalker wrote in the Evening Standard. "First, he acted -- then he set up an official inquiry and finally he went public, explaining what he had done."

He said that in so doing, Dear "broke a 150-year-old mold."

The investigation will look back as far as 1986, when a new police and criminal evidence act came into force requiring interrogators to keep a record of every word said in the room.

That law already had led hundreds of detectives to request transfers because they could not cope with the exacting new procedures. But according to Dear, old habits lingered on in the West Midlands force.

He said he had warned his men in June to adapt to the new ways. He opted for a wholesale purge after investigators discovered Aug. 11 that documents used in convicting two men of theft and armed robbery were missing from police files.

The incident convinced Dear that members of his force had "apparently decided to stick two fingers up (an obscene gesture) to the boss and begin rifling files," he told the independent newspaper.

Pressure had been mounting for an inquiry when a jury acquitted Ronnie Bolden, 36, of two armed robbery charges in June after his lawyer alleged that crime-squad detectives fabricated his confession.

It was the ninth case since 1987 in which felony charges brought by the squad were either dropped by prosecutors or thrown out by courts. All the cases involved allegations of tampering with evidence.

Paul Dandy, 23, accused of shooting a security guard during a 1987 robbery, was freed with three others when a handwriting expert, using electronic analysis, determined that his alleged confession had been altered.

The Police Federation, the force's quasi-trade union, says it is certain the detectives now under a cloud will be exonerated. But some critics say the investigation should go back to the 1970s, when six Irishmen were convicted of planting bombs that killed 19 people in two Birmingham pubs.

The six, sentenced to life imprisonment, have become a cause celebre with their claim they made false confessions under pressure from the serious crimes squad.

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President Bush dives into the frigid water off his Walker's Point while still wearing his pants after he was dared to do so by his son George W. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Bush makes his mark on US legacy

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine, Aug. 20, (AP) — George Washington saddled up, Theodore Roosevelt played peacemaker, Jimmy Carter pitched softball and Ronald Reagan chopped wood. Through the years American presidents have filled their summer vacations many ways.

George Bush, mixing water sports like fishing and boating with nearly daily rounds of golf at his home in Maine, is now adding his own mark to the legacy.

Though no official scorecards have been kept in the past, the fit and trim Bush, at 65, seems certain to chalk up one of the most sports-minded summer respites in presidential history.

"There will be lots of activity," he promised shortly after arriving on Wednesday for a three-week vacation in the seaside community where his family has owned an estate on the rocky coastline for most of this century.

He likes to stay on the move, constantly, noted presidential doctor Larry Mohr, who often keeps tabs on the first patient at golf courses, tennis courts and jogging trails. "He likes to compete."

Observed White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater, "as the President says, all the activity helps clear his mind."

Indeed Bush likes to keep his mind on the

activities at hand, refusing as a general rule to answer questions from reporters about current events.

Queried on developments in drug-ridden Colombia yesterday, he said, "Hey, this is vacation. I never take questions on the golf course."

Presidential vacations generally coincide with Congress' August recesses and date back to the days of George Washington.

Washington, the father of the country, liked to get away from it all by horseback riding at his estate in Mount Vernon, Virginia, while Thomas Jefferson enjoyed tinkering at his own Virginia home, Monticello.

## Panama talks reach stalemate

PANAMA CITY, Aug. 20, (AP) — Negotiators between Panama's leadership and opposition over the future of the government were stalemated yesterday after separate meetings with mediators from the Organisation of American States.

Time is running short: Acting President Manuel Solis Palma's term is scheduled to expire Sept. 1.

The government refuses to recognise an

apparent opposition victory in May 7 elections or allow a new plebiscite, and the opposition refuses to join a coalition with the government. The government also rejects the opposition's demand that Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, the country's top military official and de facto leader, step down.

"The opposition refuses to join a provisional government with the rest of the political forces ... a government of broad

participation, of unity and national reconciliation," Carlos Duque, a government delegate to the negotiations, told reporters yesterday.

Guillermo Endara, leader of the opposition representatives to the talks and a presidential candidate in the elections, said the only solution was the "the people decide through a plebiscite. This is the most accommodating offer in the negotiations."

## US will help in fighting drug war

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine, Aug. 20, (AP) — President George Bush said yesterday the United States was prepared to co-ordinate the extradition of suspected Colombian drug dealers after the assassination of a leading Colombian presidential candidate.

"We in the United States should not forget that others are paying very high costs for the unchecked rampage of the international criminals trafficking in cocaine and undermining the lives of law-abiding citizens," Bush said in a statement issued from Kennebunkport, where he is vacationing.

Colombian President Virgilio Barco said Friday night he was relitigating under state-of-emergency powers an extradition treaty between the United States and his country that was voided on a technicality in April 1988 by the Colombian Supreme Court.

Barco announced the measure after Sen Luis Carlos Galan, a leading candidate to succeed Barco as Colombia's president, was shot just before he was scheduled to give a campaign speech in Soacha, about 20 miles (32 kilometres) south of Bogotá.

At least 10 others were wounded in the attack, which police blamed on drug lords. Hours earlier, a provincial police chief who had led a campaign against drug lords was shot by five gunmen less than 200 yards (metres) from his home.

In Washington, the State Department issued a statement saying the United States was appalled by what it called the "latest round of vicious attacks by the Colombian drug cartels against innocent Colombians."

Bush called Barco's re-statement of the extradition treaty a "courageous move" and said he welcomed it in the fight against "narcotraffickers."

Colombia's Defence Minister Oscar Botero welcomed the government's emergency decrees against the country's ruthless drug barons yesterday and said the measures cleared the way for an all-out war.

"The measures give the military and police forces a great capacity of action at this moment," Botero told reporters. "We are (now) in a frontal war against violence, those who are violent and those who attack the existing legal order."

Colombia awoke yesterday in shock and in mourning over the murder of the country's favoured presidential candidate, Luis Carlos Galan.

Hundreds of thousands of people flocked to his coffin, to protest the government's inability to win its vicious war with Colombia's powerful drug cartels.

Galan, 46 years old, was struck by sub-machine-gun fire late Friday night as he prepared to address a campaign crowd of 10,000. Galan, the presidential candidate of the Liberal Party, was leading by wide margins in all opinion polls for the presidential elections in May, 1990.

The bulletproof vest he wore, because of previous attempts on his life, stopping two bullets over his heart, but a third bullet sliced through his abdomen, severing his aorta so that he quickly bled to death.

Druglords, saying they will not beg for peace, have embarked on an apparent collision course with the Colombian government.

The traffickers, who this past week were blamed in the deaths of a judge, a police chief and a presidential candidate, vowed in a statement issued yesterday that they will keep killing government officials. Friday, President Virgilio Barco had announced drastic measures against drug-traffickers.

"Now the fight is with blood," Medellin Cartel declared in its brief communique.

## 33 held on Hess anniversary

WUNSIEDER, West Germany, Aug. 20, (AP) — Police arrested 33 demonstrators during an overnight confrontation between right-wing extremists and radical leftists on the second anniversary of Rudolf Hess' death, police reported today.

A police spokesman said 200 ultra-rightists and neo-Nazis gathered near the grave of Hess, Adolf Hitler's deputy, and that an opposing force of leftists numbered about 250.



Juan Manuel, the oldest son of slain Colombian Senator Luis Carlos Galan, weeps over his father's coffin in Bogotá. He is holding the hand of another family member. (Reuters-wirephoto)

## Terror and technology

## Medellin cartel is brutal

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20, (Reuters) — Colombia's Medellin cartel has blended savage terror tactics with high-technology business expertise to build an illegal cocaine empire whose profits dwarf those of most multi-national corporations.

The organisation's ruthless use of terror to intimidate its opponents has been thrown into sharp focus this week with the assassination in Colombia of a leading politician, a supreme court judge and the police chief of the city of Medellin.

All three killings were blamed on cocaine lords based in Medellin.

Judged the world's most dangerous criminal organisation by many law enforcement officials, the cartel dominates a business which by one recent estimate directly employs some 600,000 people, from peasant farmers in South America to banking experts in the US and Europe.

According to this estimate, by the New York-based North American Congress on Latin America, the trade employs around 450,000 farmers who grow cocoa, the raw material for cocaine, 150,000 who turn cocoa leaves into paste, 15,000 who transport leaves or paste, 2,500 who refine paste into cocaine powder, and 1,000 involved in the export-import end.

Most of the world's coca is grown in Peru and Bolivia but Colombians dominate the most lucrative links in the cocaine chain: refining and export.

"Colombians are the driving force ... they are in key positions. And there is no doubt that the traffickers from Medellin move more cocaine into the United States than anyone else," said a US anti-drug official. A rival organisation based in the Colombian city of Cali ranks second. Law enforcement officials say it shows the brutality that has become a hallmark of Medellin.

Its organisational chart, according to international narcotics experts, is topped by three men

who rose from modest beginning to become billionaires: Pablo Escobar, 39, Jorge Luis Ochoa, 39, and Jose Rodriguez Gacha, 41.

The original fourth man of the cartel, Carlos Lehder, is serving a life sentence in Florida after being arrested in Colombia in February 1987 and extradited to the United States.

In less than a decade, from the mid-1970s, the four transformed the cocaine traffic from a relatively haphazard business involving shipments of no more than a few dozen kilos at a time to an industry that exports cocaine by the ton.

By 1984, the Medellin cartel's leaders had grown so rich and so powerful that they handed the then attorney-general, Carlos Jimenez Gomez, a letter offering to repatriate annual profits of \$2 billion in exchange for an amnesty.

Their vast wealth has allowed associates to hire top talent in fields that include international banking, chemistry, genetical engineering, radar technology, high-speed communications, agriculture and computers.

"They are extremely sophisticated; they are using the best technical equipment, including voice privacy communication equipment, they are talking about purchasing commercial satellite time to do things," DEA Operations chief David Weststrate told a senate committee recently.

The cartel's brutality against Colombians it could not bribe or intimidate has led to a gradual shift in public perceptions which, Latin American experts say, could prove more damaging to its criminal enterprise than police raids.

Escobar, who served as an alternate member of parliament for several years, long cultivated an image as a champion of the poor. He built a low-cost housing project in Medellin and a public zoo nearby.

## Wife of Bloch watched

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20, (AP) — Federal investigators are studying the activities and finances of Lucille Bloch in search of evidence that could be used in the case being developed against her husband, spy suspect Felix Bloch, sources say.

Mrs Bloch has taken a leave of absence from her job as executive director of the American Austrian Foundation, a group dedicated to improving US-Austrian relations. Bloch was the No. 2 diplomat at the US embassy in Vienna from 1980 to 1986.

Sources familiar with the case say Mrs Bloch is not suspect of any wrongdoing or of being an accomplice. But in the hunt for any motive or evidence of espionage by Bloch, investigators are looking for signs of unexplained wealth or unusual trips that often accompany spy cases, the sources said on condition of not being identified.

Bloch, 54, has not been charged with any crime. He was placed on paid leave by the US State Department in June.

About two weeks ago, Mrs Bloch asked the foundation, which receives money from the Austrian Foreign Ministry, for an indefinite leave of absence, said Thomas McGrath, a New York attorney who serves as the group's secretary.

Mrs Bloch made the decision on her own, and was not prodded by officials of the tax-deductible foundation, he said.

While Bloch has remained at the couple's apartment in Washington, Mrs Bloch has stayed with relatives in New York, according to her friends. Her office in Washington, a room she rents from another consultant, is staffed by a secretary. Mrs Bloch could not be reached for comment.

She told a newspaper in Vienna last month: "We are all very affected and in these difficult times we stand behind him."

Mrs Bloch, whom McGrath said was a spectacular and "very hard-working" employee, was hired as the foundation's executive director in 1988, according to forms on file with the New York Secretary of state's office.

She was paid £24,375 last year. The foundation was set up in 1984 "to promote, develop and support cultural, scientific, scholarly and intellectual relations" between the United States and Austria, its brochure says.

McGrath said the foundation has no official relationship with the Austrian government. Records show the group received a \$39,370 grant from the Austrian Foreign Ministry in 1988.

The Austrian Foreign Minister, Alois Mock, is a friend of the Blochs' from their graduate school days in the 1950s.

## Gang shootings continue in LA

## Under 'The Hammer'

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 20, (UPI) — Police trying to curtail deadly gang activity in south Los Angeles, yesterday began a second night of a weekend sweep known as "The Hammer," a regular anti-crime offensive against gang members.

But gang shootings continued during the weekend. At least one person was killed and four injured, including a woman eating cereal who was hit by a round of gunfire from a man standing on a moving truck and yelling gang slogans.

The sweeps, the 10th this year, were designed to "make a statement to gang members that police aren't going to go away," Lt. Bruce Hagerty said.

On Friday night police arrested 214 people, including 133 gang members, detective John Sack said. Thirty-two gang members were booked for felonies. Another 40 were booked for misdemeanour warrants.

Six guns were seized from gang members, he said. Four gang-member cars were impounded and 13

gang members were arrested for drunken driving, Sack said.

Police also seized 130.85 grams of cocaine along with small amounts of marijuana and other drugs.

The weekend sweeps began in early 1989 and were dubbed "The Hammer" by Chief Daryl Gates. The chief said then that the operation was designed to "make life miserable for gang members" by arresting them and their associates for both major and minor offences.

The usual deployment of officers in the south Los Angeles area was reinforced by 225 officers for the two-night crackdown.

But while the task force operated Friday night, gang-related shootings continued, including one near the area where "The Hammer" was deployed.

A 19-year-old gang member was shot and killed in an alley south of the neighbourhood targeted by the crackdown during an argument with a rival gang member.



## Seal (ed) with love

Seal baby "Winhold," estimated to be four weeks old, receives specially treated food through a nose at the Seal-Rearing Station in Norddeich-West Germany.

Winhold was found almost dead at the North-Sea coast on Friday. Station staff hopes Winhold will be set free after being cured in about 10 weeks.

## Hagen challenges Brundtland

### Campaign in Norway heats up

OSLO, Aug. 20, (AP) — A politician who is questioning the generous benefits of Norway's welfare state has emerged as a major challenger to the re-election bid of Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland.

Carl Hagen, dubbed the "fox in the political chicken coop" by observers, has been taking a hard look at the social benefits system created by the Socialist Labour Party, which has ruled 34 of the past 44 years.

And the views of the combative and telegenic politician are commanding increasing attention from voters in a nation of 4.2 million, where elections

usually don't bring sweeping change.

Hagen, the 45-year-old head of the Party of Progress, has espoused free market policies more akin to British "Thatcherism," stressed law-and-order issues and backed a limit on Norway's open-door refugee policy.

"The progressives have challenged Norway's 'accepted truth' that everyone is entitled to a welfare safety net," said Lars Svaasand, a political scientist at the University of Bergen. "Much of its support is a protest by voters frustrated by the traditional parties."

The campaign hits full stride

tomorrow when Brundtland meets Hagen in the first of a series of television debates leading up to the Sept. 11 vote.

It is likely to be "the most aggressive, exciting final campaign spurt since World War II," said Svaasand.

Seven major parties are expected to win the bulk of the seats in Parliament, which has been expanded this year from 157 to 165 seats.

Recent polls suggest the progressives have quadrupled their support since the 1985 election, when they won 3.7 per cent of the vote and two seats in Parliament.



## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Sub in a net

TROMSØ, Norway, Aug 14. (AP): A Norwegian trawler caught an unmarked submarine in its fishing net but the sub's crew used axes and blowtorches to cut the vessel free and it fled without identifying itself, according to a news report.

The trawler Orion was fishing Saturday near Bear Island, 250 miles (400 kilometres) off of northern Norway, when the submarine ran into its net, dragging the Orion backward. The ship's owner Jens-Petter Kraknes told the Norwegian news agency NTB.

According to the report yesterday, Kraknes said he decided not to release the submarine unless it identified itself and the sub surfaced quickly.

## French millionaire

MOSCOW, Aug 14. (Reuters): A French millionaire of Armenian origin who disappeared last month from his Moscow hotel may have been abducted, an official Soviet spokesman said today.

Soviet law enforcement agencies and the Interior Ministry are searching Moscow, Leningrad, the Armenian capital Yerevan, and other tourist cities for art dealer Garriq Basadjan, said Foreign Ministry spokesman Yuri Gremitskikh.

"Various versions are under consideration including abduction," Gremitskikh told a regular news conference in Moscow.

## Performers defect

LONDON, Aug 14. (AP): Six members of East Germany's leading opera company, Komische Oper, have defected in London after a two-week tour at Covent Garden and are expected to settle in West Germany, British news reports said today.

The Daily Express newspaper said the six, including singers and technicians, slipped away from a hotel hours before the 320-member company was due to fly back to East Berlin yesterday.

Officials at Covent Garden's Royal Opera House, the West German embassy and the British Home Office, which deals with asylum requests, all said they knew nothing of the reported defections.

## Pirates warning

TOKYO, Aug 14. (Reuters): Japanese ships have been warned to beware of sword-wielding pirates in high-speed boats off Indonesia's Anambas Islands in the South China Sea.

Three pirates, armed with swords, attacked a 43,000-tonne Liberian tanker north of the islands on Aug 6, an official of the Shipowners Association of Japan said today.

The pirates, of unspecified nationality, stole 560,000 yen (\$4,000) in cash and valuables from the captain's cabin after tying him up, the officials said.

## Thai babies

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 14. (KUNA): Many of the Thai babies smuggled into Malaysia and sold to families here are unwanted or abandoned by their natural parents, according to a report today.

The report, said this is posing problems to Thai police and the Bangkok-based centre for the protection of children's rights who thus find it difficult to trace the children's natural parents.

The report quoted co-ordinator of the centre Suphasit Koompraphan as saying that the Thai parents will not come forward to claim the babies.

## 5 Burmese arrested

BANGKOK, Aug 14. (UPI): Burmese security forces have arrested five people including a woman and two of her sons for allegedly setting off two bomb blasts in southern Burma, official Rangoon radio said yesterday.

It said the arrests were for explosions April 9 and July 3 in the town of Kawthaung, also known as Victoria Point, at the southernmost tip of Burma.

It identified the arrested as (Mrs) Daw Ohn and two of her sons, win Thaw and Maung Maung, along with Aung Nyunt and Ma Aye Nyein.

## Sanctuary

MOSCOW, Aug 14. (AP): Counterside poisoned by radiation from the Chernobyl nuclear plant will be made a sanctuary for scientific study of such phenomena as super-heavy pine needles and abnormal rodents.

Three regions of Byelorussia that were evacuated after the 1986 accident will be set aside for scientists to observe how radiation affects plants and wildlife, the official news agency said.

Some sections of the Ukraine on the other side of Chernobyl are already being used as study areas.

## Anyaku confident

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia, Aug 14. (AP): Commonwealth Deputy Secretary-General Enoka Anyaku said today he is confident of being appointed to replace Secretary-General Sir Shridath Ramphal, who is not seeking reappointment.

Anyaku told reporters he based his confidence on support he had received from the Commonwealth member countries.

Anyaku, a Nigerian, is one of two main contenders for the post. The other is former Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser.

## Mutiny on board

TOKYO, Aug 14. (KUNA): Japanese authorities today said that the British captain of a Panamanian-registered cargo ship had been held by his crewmen in a mutiny off Japan's Okinawa Island.

The Maritime safety agency officials said that they received news of the mutiny and distress signal last night from the 89,000-tonne vessel transporting coal at a distance of 570 kilometres off Okinawa.

Japanese official sources said that 34 Filipino seamen on board the ship had affirmed they held the captain and four other British crewmen at knives-point.

# Bitter Botha steps down

Row over meeting with Kaunda

CAPE TOWN, Aug 14. (Reuters): President P.W. Botha announced his resignation in a television address to the nation today after a bitter row with his apparent F.W. de Klerk, leader of South Africa's ruling white National Party.

Botha, 73, head of the white minority government for almost 11 years, castigated De Klerk for planning talks with Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda without consulting him.

"I shall not approve a visit to Dr Kaunda... at this stage," he said.

Botha said members of his cabinet asked him to resign during a 2-1/2 hour meeting at his Cape Town office today, suggesting he give ill health as a reason.



News of the South African government's leadership crisis hits the streets in Cape Town. (Reuters wirephoto)



## Defiance campaign

Anti-apartheid demonstrators take to the streets to back a nation-wide defiance campaign organised by the latest guise of South Africa civil rights campaign, the Mass Democratic Movement (MDM) (Reuters wirephoto)

# IJI warned

## Zia's death anniversary

### ISLAMABAD, Aug 14. (KUNA):

Several leaders of the ruling Pakistan Peoples Party have warned the opposition Islami Jamhoori Ulema alliance against involvement in violence and show of strength on the occasion of the first death anniversary of late President General Zia-ul-Haq on Thursday.

Federal Interior Minister Aitezaz Ahsan, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Aftab Khan, Minister of State for Food and Agriculture Mahboob Rahman and Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Doctor Ashraf Abbasi have in separate statements said that IJI should abandon plans to transform the anniversary rituals in the courtyard of Saudi-financed Shah Faisal mosque into a political rally.

Such a rally when incited politically would break law and order situation in the capital of Pakistan on the background of reports that the participants have been asked to bring fire-arms with them.

According to IJI plans there would be 'Fateha Khwani' and 'Khatme Quran' prayers for the soul of Zia and mass recitation of the holy book near the grave of Zia on Thursday afternoon.

Three main organisers of the ceremonies, Chaudhry Ejazul Haq, son of Zia, Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, Chief Minister of Punjab and Shujaat Hussain, Member of Parliament, have said that IJI had no intention indulging in violence on the solemn occasion.

The party revolt erupted anew at the weekend after Botha publicly repudiated a statement by Foreign Minister P.W. Botha saying that the President had approved the talks with Kaunda.

De Klerk summoned cabinet colleagues to his home in Pretoria yesterday and met them again for an hour after today's cabinet session with Botha.

The party leaders refused to disclose the outcome of the meeting with Botha, but Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee told Reuters it was very dimly.

Information Minister Stoffel van der Merwe said as he left De Klerk's office that the situation was "not bad under the circumstances."

Botha said the 16 cabinet ministers "proposed to me that I should depart for my private residence and appoint in acting state president until after Sept 6."

"To this, I replied that I am not prepared to leave on a lie and I have consequently decided to submit my resignation to the chief justice today with effect from August 15, 1989."

Botha did not nominate a successor, but party sources said De Klerk, 53, would be sworn in tomorrow as acting president until after parliamentary elections on Sept 6.

De Klerk was nominated by his party in February to succeed Botha, who was forced at the time to undertake not to seek reelection.

Botha left his office at 5.25 pm, waving from his silver limousine to a handful of reporters gathered outside. A policeman lowered his personal flag.

He said in his television address that he had twice had trouble with De Klerk making policy announcements or planning foreign travel without seeking his approval as required by cabinet rules.

"After all these years of my best efforts for the National Party and for the government of this country, as well as the security of our country, I am being ignored by ministers serving in my cabinet."

"I consequently have no choice other than to announce my resignation," Botha said.

Botha's resignation announcement, the text of which was issued to the news media before his television appearance, was the climax of a months-long feud with the party he served for more than 50 years. It also paves the way for De Klerk's succession.

De Klerk, was named acting president and was scheduled to be sworn in at 11 am tomorrow at the Government Buildings in Pretoria.

Botha resigned the party leadership after he suffered a mild stroke in January, but made it clear he wanted to stay on as President.

Party sources said he was surprised and angry when De Klerk and not Finance Minister Barend du Plessis was elected in his place and when he came under intense pressure to surrender the presidency.

Botha never publicly congratulated De Klerk and forced party officials to cancel a farewell banquet for him at the last minute.

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# Soviets invite Wallenberg family

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Aug 14. (AP): The Soviet Union has invited family and friends of missing Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg to Moscow to discuss his disappearance 44 years ago, the secretary of the Wallenberg Association said today.

Wallenberg, who would be 77, is credited with saving tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews from Nazi concentration camps in World War II. He was arrested by the Soviet Army entering Budapest in 1945. Moscow has said he died of natural causes in prison in 1947.

Sonja Sonnenfeld, secretary of the Swedish-based association to find and free

Wallenberg, said the invitation to a four-member group indicates the Soviets might release more information about his fate.

"Just to repeat that old information would not be enough to invite us," she said told the Associated Press. "The Soviets must be aware that there should be new aspects."

It was the first time the Soviets had offered to meet Wallenberg's family or officials of the association to discuss the case, Sonnenfeld said. They planned to go in mid-October.

The invitation was to his half-sister Nina Lagergren and half-brother Guy von Dardel, Sonnenfeld and Per Anger, Wallenberg's assistant at the Swedish embassy in Budapest.

Sonnenfeld said the group was promised meetings with high-level officials, "but no names were mentioned and we didn't insist."

Sonnenfeld said pressure had also recently mounted within the Soviet Union to know the truth about Wallenberg, with newspapers publishing detailed articles about him.

"We believe he is still alive and we believe something will happen on this trip," she said. Wallenberg issued Swedish travel documents to 20,000 Hungarian Jews scheduled to be sent to Nazi death camps. His intervention with German authorities was credited for the survival of another 100,000 Jews from a pre-war community of 750,000.

# Crews seeking body of Leland

## ADDIS ABABA, Aug 14. (Agencies):

Undaunted by bad weather, rescuers began the grim task today of recovering the bodies of US Congressman Mickey Leland and 15 others who died when their airplane crashed into a mountain in southwestern Ethiopia.

The bodies of Leland and 11 of the other 15 people were found yesterday in the wreckage of the twin-engine plane, which disappeared a week ago during bad weather on a flight to a refugee camp near the Sudanese border.

The others were presumed dead in the crash, which one US Air Force pilot described as "unsurvivable." The search for the other bodies began today in a steep ravine below a jagged cliff about 500 miles (805 kilometres) southwest of the capital.

"The nose of the plane just ran into rocks," said US Congressman Gary Ackerman, who was in the Blackhawk helicopter that first spotted the wreckage of his colleague.

Ackerman, identified his friend by his belongings. "I found my friend near the place where he was planning to fulfil his mission — to assist the sick and hungry," Ackerman, his voice cracking and close to tears, told a press conference last evening.

The wings sheared off and the engine and fuselage were buried, Ackerman said after returning to Washington late yesterday.

Leland was chairman of the House Select Committee on Hunger and an advocate of US aid to famine-ravaged regions of Africa.

Mourned as a fighter for the homeless and hungry worldwide, Leland was a six-term representative from Houston who began his political career as a firebrand militant but later won the respect of both liberals and conservatives.

Leland often said his commitment to ending hunger was rooted in a trip he made to Sudan in 1984, when a starving young girl died before his eyes at a refugee camp. "Every day I see her face," he told reporters.

Flags were lowered to half staff at the White House as President George Bush and other leaders expressed sorrow at the death of Leland, who was en route to inspect conditions for 300,000 Sudanese civil war refugees at a camp in Fuguido, about 100 miles (160 kilometres) southwest of the crash site.

In Washington, Bush and Secretary of State James Baker expressed their condolences to Leland's pregnant wife, Allison, and the relatives of those aboard the plane.

The twin-engine aircraft, owned by Ethiopia's Relief Agency, crashed 4,300 feet (1,310 metres) up the side of a 5,500-foot (1,676-metre) mountain.

US congressman dies in plane crash

NEW AUGUSTA, Mississippi, Aug 14. (AP): US Congressman Larkin Smith was found dead today in the wreckage of a small plane that crashed in a forest, authorities said.

The twin-engine plane carrying the Mississippi Republican and his pilot disappeared from radar screens last night and was spotted early today.

Searchers tracked through heavy woods to reach the site near the community of Janice, removing the bodies of the freshman congressman and his pilot, Chuck Vierling, from the wreckage, said acting Harrison county sheriff Farley Rhodes.



Aerial view showing the wreckage of the plane that disappeared last week. (Inset) Bush expresses 'profound sadness' to reporters after receiving the news of the apparent death of Leland. (Reuters wirephoto)

# JVP calls for strike

14 killed in Lanka violence

## COLOMBO, Aug 14. (Agencies):

Sinhalese radicals called a nationwide strike tomorrow to demand the withdrawal of Indian peacekeeping soldiers as military officials reported 14 more deaths in Sri Lanka's ethnic violence.

The killings were reported in several incidents in central and southern Sri Lanka, the Sinhalese heartland, during the 24-hour period ending 2 pm (0830 GMT) today, military officials said. The officials cannot be identified under briefing rules.

The one-day strike was announced by the anti-government People's Liberation Front (JVP) through posters and leaflets in the capital and its suburbs. The strike coincides with India's Independence Day.

The Sinhalese-language posters warned people to stay indoors. Several strikes called earlier by the front in a similar fashion have been largely successful.

Monday's posters denounced the presence of an estimated 43,000 Indian soldiers, deployed in the northeast to oversee a peace accord that aimed to end a Tamil insurrection for an independent nation.

The ultranationalist front says the presence of Indian troops compromises the country's sovereignty.

They also protests the government's peace overtures to the Tamil militants, made through the peace accord that was brokered by India and signed on July 29, 1987.

Tamil militants began the separate campaign in 1983, alleging discrimination against their community by the Sinhalese majority in jobs and education.

Tamils make up 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million people.

The front says the government gave the minority Tamils too many concessions in the 1987 accord. Sinhalese comprise 75 per cent of the population and control the government and the military.

President Ranasinghe Premadasa's request to India to withdraw its soldiers has failed to appease the extremists. India has pulled out 2,220 soldiers since Premadasa made the request June 1.

The government accuses the front of killing at least 4,000 people during the last two years and organising a series of strikes that have paralysed the country.

With the latest 14 killings, the toll in the extremist violence since Saturday rose to 72, according to military officials.

On Monday, a police inspector and a constable on patrol died in a landmine explosion under their jeep. The attack, blamed on the front, occurred in Homagama, a Colombo suburb, the military officials said.

The extremists recently stepped up attacks against security personnel and their families in response to the numerous slayings of suspected subversives by death squads alleged sponsored by the government as part of a crackdown on the JVP.

Officials also reported that the JVP killed a doctor in the Colombo suburb of Athurugiriya.

In a related development, a JVP-inspired strike by non-medical personnel at five major Colombo hospitals continued, seriously disrupting health services around the capital.

The strike began on Friday at two hospitals after security forces arrested two workers for passing up pro-JVP posters and spread on Sunday to three more facilities.

A Buddhist monk was shot and killed by unidentified gunmen in the Homagama village yesterday, they said. The slaying of Vallambagala Pannasara Thero was the fourth of a monk during the last 13 days.

The officials said the radicals also shot to death two police constables and a woman colleague in Kandy district, 90 kilometres (55 miles) northeast of Colombo yesterday.

Also in Kandy, four unidentified bodies with gunshot wounds were found today, the officials said and blamed the murders on the front.

The other victims were a couple and their son who were backed to death yesterday by the radicals in central Rainapura district, the officials said. One radical was shot and killed by Sri Lankan troops in southern Kalutara district, the officials said.

Communism Prime Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak said today he could not form a government and was handing the task to the leader of the United Peasants' Party (UPP), a small non-communist political party.

Kiszczak said in a statement that he was giving the task to UPP leader Roman Malinowski.

"A new situation has emerged where I see a chance of Roman Malinowski (the UPP leader) forming a new government in which representatives of all forces in the Parliament would be included," Kiszczak said.

Kiszczak did not explicitly say that he was resigning his post as prime minister. But his statement appeared to make clear that he would not present a government for parliamentary confirmation later this month with himself at its head.

Kiszczak said his efforts to form a government had been complicated by the proposal of Walesa last week that the opposition join forces with the UPP and another small party, the Democratic Party, in a non-communist coalition.

# Walesa close to forming a govt

WARSAW, Aug 14. (Reuters): Solidarity leader Lech Walesa paid a lightning visit to Warsaw today for talks on creating a non-communist government, and a senior parliamentarian said a deal was almost sealed.

Walesa said after returning to his home in the Baltic city of Gdansk that his main purpose in visiting Warsaw had been to meet Solidarity parliamentary deputies.

"If other matters had cropped up, we would have dealt with them," Walesa said. "But as things did not work out, there was no reason for me to hang around in Warsaw."

Alexander Bentkowski, leader of the parliamentary group of the United Peasants' Party (UPP), said Walesa was close to agreement with the UPP and the Democratic Party on the terms of forming a non-communist coalition.

The two parties have been pro-communist for decades, but they are showing signs of independence and Walesa is trying to lure them into Eastern Europe's first non-communist government since World War Two.

Bentkowski said last-minute technical hitches had blocked a meeting today between Walesa and UPP leader Roman Malinowski, and Democratic Party chief Jerzy Jozwiak.

"But the issues which haven't been agreed are so small that it is hard to believe they will stand in the way of a final agreement," Bentkowski said. "There is no possibility of backing out of a coalition now. I am hugely optimistic."

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# Poles must get rid of despair: Mazowiecki

Wary Soviets keep hands off

GDANSK, Poland, Aug. 20. (Agencies): Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the Solidarity newspaper editor nominated as Poland's next prime minister, urged his countrymen today to rid themselves of despair and build a better future.

Two thousand Poles, flashing V-for-victory signs and roaring "Solidarity, Solidarity," applauded Mazowiecki and union leader Lech Walesa as they emerged from a Roman Catholic church service in the Baltic port of Gdansk.

President Wojciech Jaruzelski nominated Mazowiecki yesterday as prime minister, ending a 45-year Communist grip on the government. The Communist Party said it would take part in a Solidarity-led

administration.

"It is an incredible success for our struggle," a jubilant Walesa said in a telephone interview from his Gdansk home. "But now let us see it in practice... This is just the beginning."

"I should now go for political retirement," Walesa said. "My struggle, our struggle, has accomplished whatever was possible. In the direction of politics, I have reached the top. I do not plan any further political career."

"I am terrified," said Mazowiecki, interviewed on Polish State Television from a church-run school for the blind near Warsaw where he had gone to spend the day in quiet reflection.

But he said: "I think... we can do a lot, that we can release the forces in ourselves. I think that it will not be easy, but it is possible."

In a foretaste of the problems he will face, a group of youths heckled Mazowiecki after the church service and shouted: "We want bread not a prime minister."

Mazowiecki replied: "I see the huge and difficult tasks ahead of us, and I am well aware that we need bread rather than a prime minister."

As the crowd broke into cheers, he declared: "There is only one way. We have to get rid of this feeling of hopelessness. This nation, this fantastic nation, can fix things so that we will live a better life."

"Why should we be a nation that is incapable of doing anything? We must create a better Poland, but first we must believe in it. And I do believe in it, because Poland is alive and Poland is growing."

Walesa greeted Mazowiecki with hugs and kisses on the cheek when they met at St. Brygida's Church, a Solidarity stronghold since the union was born in 1980 out of a wave of strikes on Poland's Baltic Coast.

Both Walesa and Mazowiecki were arrested when the Communist authorities imposed martial law in December 1981 and suppressed Solidarity. The union was restored to legality last April.

Solidarity's national leadership, its senior members of parliament and its academic advisers — many of them former political prisoners — were meeting in Gdansk to prepare their strategy for government.

Questioned on Solidarity's plans, Walesa said: "We will have to ask for the help of all forces, external and internal, so that Solidarity's involvement has a bigger effect. If it doesn't, that will be a bad thing."

The Communist Party's Central Committee agreed yesterday that the party should join Mazowiecki's government. But it said the party should have more portfolios than the defence and interior ministries which it has been offered.

Solidarity accepts that the party should retain the defence and interior ministries because that should ease concerns in Moscow about Poland's place in the Soviet security system in Eastern Europe.

The Soviet Union, while wary, has said it considers the formation of a government Poland's internal affair.

■ The West in general welcomed the changes in Warsaw, but few government spokesmen would offer official comments.

One who did was Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordóñez, who wrote in the Madrid Daily El País:

"None of us could have imagined two years ago... a Solidarity journalist who is not a member of the Communist Party and who is going to be prime minister in a government without a communist majority."

Belgium was forthright in its support. Foreign Minister Mark Eyskens wished Mazowiecki every success and paid tribute to all political elements.

Japan and Britain issued brief Foreign Ministry statements. "We welcome the formation of a new cabinet which is widely supported by Polish people," said an official in Tokyo.

In Washington, the Bush administration was non-committal, saying it preferred to wait until the new prime minister was confirmed.

France, both for itself and as current president of the European Economic Community, offered the most tangible backing.

garian reform communist Imre Pozsgay.

The event, called "tear it down and take it with you," encouraged visitors from both countries to clip bits of barbed wire as souvenirs from the border fence Hungary is dismantling.

Hundreds of Austrians arriving for the picnic stared in amazement at the East Germans coming towards them. Many East Germans were met by friends and relatives.

West German cars lined the narrow track.

"We have to compliment the Hungarian guards. They simply turned around when they saw the people coming," said West German Wolf Held, who gave a lift in his silver Mercedes to three East Germans, one of them crying with



## Release Iran's assets, US told

BAALBEK, Lebanon, Aug. 20. (UPI): The spiritual guide of Hezbollah, the pro-Iranian extremist group believed to be holding 16 foreign hostages, said today the US should release Iranian assets as a goodwill gesture and a prelude for restoring Iranian-American relations and securing freedom for the captives.

Ayatollah Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah made his remarks at a ceremony session at the ancient city of Baalbek, 52 miles (83 km) north east of Beirut, to commemorate the death of a suicide driver who detonated his explosive-laden truck into an Israeli military convoy Aug. 9, wounding five Israeli soldiers.

"Releasing the assets which America froze represents a proof of goodwill and an American understanding of the Islamic nature," Fadlallah said.

The clergyman, addressing hundreds of extremists, said restoring normal relations between Iran and the US would be possible after the Americans express their good intentions by unblocking billions of dollars of Iranian assets held in US banks since 1979.

Fadlallah said restoring normal Iranian-American relations would then be possible by freeing hostages from both countries.

"If you (Americans) express your goodwill and want to restore normal relations, (the Iranians) have hostages and you have hostages," Fadlallah said. "Start working for the release of the Iranian diplomats who are held captive."

Three Iranian diplomats and their Lebanese driver who holds an Iranian passport, disappeared in the summer of 1982 while driving inside the Christian enclave. There has been no confirmation on what happened to the four men.

Christian sources said that militiamen from the Lebanese Forces militia snatched the Iranians and killed them hours later. Militia leaders have, however, denied the charges.

Fadlallah told United Press International that the Iranians would be satisfied if they retrieve the bodies of the diplomats, if their death was confirmed.

There are 16 foreign hostages, including eight Americans, believed held hostage by extremists loyal to Iran and affiliated with Hezbollah.

Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan held talks in Iran last week to act as a cautious broker between Tehran and Washington, Iranian political sources said.

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About one kilometre (half a mile) inside Austria at the end of the track, local police provided two coaches to take the refugees to the West German embassy in Vienna.

In Budapest, the Hungarian Interior Ministry said the border guards could only have stopped the East Germans from crossing by using weapons, said the state news agency MTI. However, "they decided to use weapons or force."

MTI said in a brief dispatch.

The event called for participants to cross the border into Austria, return with Austrian guests, and then picnic in a formerly restricted Hungarian zone. The restrictions were lifted Aug. 1

## Iraq remains battle ready

Baghdad expands defence industry

BAGHDAD, Aug. 20. (Reuters): Iraq is keeping up its military guard against Iran and expanding its defence industry despite a ceasefire that calmed Gulf battlefields a year ago today.

Iraqi officials say they see no sign that Tehran seriously wants to negotiate a lasting peace after eight years of bloodletting thought to have killed up to one million people.

For the moment Iraqi defence planners are taking no chances. "The current military balance is in our favour and we must try to keep it that way," Nizar Hamdoun, undersecretary at the Foreign Ministry, told Reuters in a recent interview.

President Saddam Hussein says he has demobilised more than 200,000 soldiers since the UN-arranged ceasefire, but diplomats say the armed forces remain ready for battle.

"The Iraqis have thinned out their presence in some areas but are still basically deployed facing Iran," one diplomat said. "Their combat effectiveness and strength are unchanged and they are excluding justifiable confidence against Iran."

But Iraqi leaders were upset by Iran's economic and arms agreement in June with the Soviet Union, one of Baghdad's biggest military suppliers during the war.

"We discussed it frankly with the Soviets and (told) them and others in the world that this is a bad development," Hamdoun said.

"The notion of providing any arms to Iran at this point is not

going to serve the stability of the region... and would only make the Iranian side more intransigent."

Iraq, with about 17 million people, mobilised more than one million men during the Gulf war. Its armed forces are now the biggest and most battle-hardened in the Arab world.

Since the ceasefire, Saddam has begun to make Iraq's muscle felt in the region. He helped Egypt back into its Arab League seat in May at a summit in Casablanca.

Saddam has sent tanks, artillery and — by many reports — surface-to-surface missiles to Lebanese Christian forces opposed to Damascus.

In February Iraq joined Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen in the Arab Co-operation Council, an economic grouping which also plans to co-operate in security matters and perhaps arms production.

"We see joint arms production as a real possibility," said Hamdoun, adding that all four ACC members favoured the idea.

Iraq, pushing ahead with its own arms industry, staged a military fair in April which impressed Western defence experts.

Weapons at least partly made in Iraq included a version of the Soviet T-72 battle tank named the Lion of Babylon, two types of self-propelled guns, long-range rockets and a Soviet-made Ilyushin-76 converted into an early warning aircraft.

## Majlis delays cabinet debate

NICOSIA, Aug. 20. (Reuters): Iran's Parliament (Majlis) delayed a showdown today over the dropping of an anti-Western minister from the cabinet, but hardliners won a skirmish by voting down a motion to impeach another outgoing minister.

Pro-private sector deputies sought to impeach Heavy Industry Minister Behzad Nabavi, Iran's longest serving minister, over a bribery and kickback scandal.

But he won the vote with the support of 132 deputies, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported. Ninety-four deputies voted against him or abstained.

The result underlined the power of the hardliners in Parliament, which is to consider

and vote on 22 ministers proposed by President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

A majority in the 270-member of Parliament had petitioned Rafsanjani to retain Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, leader of the hardline anti-Western faction in the outgoing government. Rafsanjani ignored the plea.

The vote for Nabavi will not directly affect the new government because he was not in the cabinet proposed yesterday by Rafsanjani, which featured 12 new faces.

A lively debate is expected over Rafsanjani's nominations after he ignored the appeal to keep Mohtashemi, a former ambassador in Syria.

■ Ali Fallahian, a Deputy Minister of Intelligence, has been a key official in the security apparatus, particularly in the campaign against the Mujaheddin-e-Khalq, the main opposition group whose members gradually fled underground. It is now headquartered in Iraq.

■ Akbar Torkan has been proposed for Minister of Defence and Armed Forces Logistics. He was head of defence industries, which was successful in developing increasingly sophisticated arms domestically during the war. An arms embargo limited the amount of spare parts Iran could get for its US-manufactured arsenal.

■ Abdol-Hussein Vahaji, who has been a deputy at the Commerce Ministry, was nominated as minister. The ministry's top position had been vacant for some time because of lack of approval by the Majlis of a number of nominees.

■ Hussein Kamali, head of the Labour Committee of the Majlis and a staunch supporter of worker rights, was proposed for Labour Minister.

■ Mohammad Reza Nematzadeh, head of the aeronautics industries and the utilities, was nominated for the Industries Ministry.

## Iranian cabinet: mix of old, new

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Aug. 20. (AP): The 22-member cabinet that President Hashemi Rafsanjani presented to the Iranian Parliament yesterday included 12 new ministers.

Rafsanjani said in his inaugural address Thursday that rebuilding the economy would be the central concern of his administration.

Several ministers from the previous government retained their posts, including Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and Chaharmahal Aqazadeh.

Brief biographical details of some of the most important ministers follow:

■ Aqazadeh, 41, has been Oil Minister since 1985. He played a major role in keeping the industry running despite the fierce attacks on production and export facilities during the eight-year war with Iraq that ended in a ceasefire a year ago.

Still, the estimated \$25 billion in damage to the industry forced production down from a 1974 high of over six million barrels a day to just over one million at the worst point. Production has bounced back, with Iran earning \$9 billion last year from oil, the main source of income for financing the postwar reconstruction. It is expected to earn \$12 billion this year.

■ Mohsen Nourbakhsh, 41, was nominated for another key money post, minister of Economics and Finance. He holds a doctorate in foreign trade from the University of California and was governor of the Central Bank. He reportedly resigned over his opposition to loosening controls on the money supply, and inflation went from below 20 per cent to over 50 after he left.

■ Ali Akbar Velayati, 44, has been Foreign Minister since December 1982. He is close to Rafsanjani on foreign policy and leading advocate of improving relations with West. Trained as a pediatrician, he is one of a handful of revolutionary figures educated in the US. He is a former Majlis deputy for Tehran.

■ Mohammad Khatami, 46, has been Minister of Islamic Guidance, which controls the media and culture, since April 1985. A theological scholar, he is the former director of the Islamic Centre in Hamburg, West Germany, and a former member of Parliament.

■ Iraj Fazel, 50, proposed minister of health, is the kind of technocrat Rafsanjani has been trying to attract from abroad to help rebuild Iran. Fazel, a surgeon, was an associated professor at Wright State University in Ohio but returned to Iran after the revolution. He was minister of Culture and Higher Education from August 1984 to October, 1985, but resigned over differences with student groups.

■ Abdullah Nouri, proposed Interior Minister, is a Majlis deputy for the central city of Isfahan and chairman of Planning and Budget Committee. He was the late Ayatollah Khomeini's representative with the Revolutionary Guards Corps, with powers to appoint and dismiss its commanders. A middle-ranking cleric, he was also named by Khomeini to the committee that amended the constitution.

Little information is available on the background of other new appointees who are not listed in official Almanacs.

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A jubilant Walesa, left, speaks at a union meeting Saturday in Gdansk. Solidarity's parliamentary floor leader Geremek is seated next to Walesa. (Reuters wirephoto)



Mazowiecki: "We need bread, not a PM."

## Why Mazowiecki?

Walesa's terrible dilemma

GDANSK, Poland, Aug. 20. (AP): Poland's non-communist premier-designate had not even wanted to run for the nation's Parliament. Now the question is being asked: Why did Solidarity leader Lech Walesa choose Tadeusz Mazowiecki to head the government?

Tadeusz Mazowiecki, among Lech Walesa's closest advisers since the independent union was founded in August 1980, had declined an offer to run for Poland's democratic Parliament elections to month's ago, preferring to edit Tygodnik Solidarnosc, the union weekly.

Now Mazowiecki, a lawyer and journalist, is poised to become Poland's first non-communist prime minister since World War II after his nomination by Communist President Wojciech Jaruzelski yesterday. Jaruzelski, in a meeting earlier in the week with Walesa, had agreed to turn the government over to an opposition figure suggested by Walesa.

Walesa proposed two other names to Jaruzelski on Thursday — historian Bronislaw Geremek, now the Solidarity floor leader in Parliament, and Parliament Deputy Jacek Kuron, a 25-year activist.

Walesa himself described the choice as "a terrible dilemma."

Kuron "deserved it for his struggle," Walesa said yesterday but was not acceptable to communist leaders because of his long years of aggressive opposition.

Geremek "is the best among us, it is true... He deserved it," Walesa said, but he was needed to lead Solidarity's Parliament delegation.

"Thus having a general look at the whole arrangement, I decided that such a solution is best for Poland," said Walesa.

Mazowiecki also understands the two other pillar of power in Poland, the Roman Catholic Church of Catholic intelligentsia in 1957 and served in Parliament during the 1960s in a Communist-sanctioned delegation under the church's protection.

Tadeusz Mazowiecki is one of very few very natural candidates," Janusz Onyszkiewicz, a Solidarity deputy and departing union spokesman, said yesterday.



Caught in the Iron Curtain

An East German refugee pulling his papers out of his pocket after he was caught by Hungarian border guards when he tried to flee across the border into Austria near Sopron, Hungary. (Reuters wirephoto)

## E. Germans use symbolic Austro-Hungarian border picnic to flee to West

ST MARGARETHEN, Austria, Aug. 20. (Reuters): More than 200 East Germans used a symbolic picnic on the Austro-Hungarian border as a cover to flee to the West yesterday.

A group of about 100 pushed through a partly-open gate leading to a muddy track at the border fence and walked into Austria. Smaller groups — totalling more than 100 people — followed as Hungarian border guards turned a blind eye.

"They just marched straight through," an Austrian border guard told Reuters near this northeastern border village.

Mostly young people, some with children, they fled

Hungary with just the clothes they were wearing.

"We were East Germans, but not any more," laughed Hermann, wedged with his wife Margaret in the boot of a car full of others leaving the border. Their eight-year-old son slept inside.

More than 1,000 East Germans have escaped West through Hungary in the last two weeks. The exodus has soured relations between the Germans and embarrassed reform-minded Hungary.

The picnic was organised jointly by Austria's Pan-European Union for a Europe without frontiers and Hungarian opposition groups, under the patronage of European parliamentarian Otto von Habsburg and Hun-

garian reform communist Imre Pozsgay.

The event, called "tear it down and take it with you," encouraged visitors from both countries to clip bits of barbed wire as souvenirs from the border fence Hungary is dismantling.

Hundreds of Austrians arriving for the picnic stared in amazement at the East Germans coming towards them. Many East Germans were met by friends and relatives.

West German cars lined the narrow track.

هكذا من الدّخول



# Beirutis in search of peace and safety

## Hostages to pay if France steps in

(Continued from Page 1)

French President Mitterrand asserted today that France did not intend to intervene militarily in Lebanon and sent the warships on "a mission of support and to save lives."

Speaking at a news conference in El Escorial, Spain, the French President called for intensified diplomatic pressure to protect Lebanon's sovereignty and independence.

He said French food and medical aid being carried aboard at least one ship was intended for all Lebanese, regardless of religion and ethnic origin, but particularly for those in greatest need.

The European Economic Community (EEC) will discuss emergency aid measures for Lebanon at a meeting in Paris tomorrow, French officials said.

France, currently in the chair of the 12-nation alliance, convened the meeting of Foreign Ministry political directors to step up EEC efforts.

PLO leader Yasser Arafat said today he hoped an Arab summit on Lebanon would be held soon but a Jordanian official said it would merely provide a stage for Iraq and Syria to vent their enmity.

"We don't want a summit in which Iraqi-Syrian rivalry will explode," the Jordanian official, who asked not to be named, told Reuters.

He said Arab and international efforts should be allowed to run their course before calling another Arab summit.

King Hussein met Arafat over lunch and a palace source said they discussed Middle East issues including Lebanon and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

A PLO official said Arafat would have further talks with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Zaid Bin Shaker in the evening.

Arafat told reporters on arrival that Arab peace efforts for Lebanon rested on the work of a three-man Arab League committee.

Pope John Paul angrily called today for a ceasefire in Lebanon and told hundreds of thousands of young people the modern world was dominated by lust for power.

"It seems the intention is to destroy the city of Beirut, especially the areas inhabited by Christians," he said, his voice almost breaking with anger.

At least four people were wounded today when Muslim commandos affiliated with the Hezbollah organisation attacked military targets inside Israel's self-declared "security zone" in southern Lebanon.

The An Nour radio station, the mouthpiece of the Hezbollah organisation, said two explosions killed or wounded 15 "enemy troops."

But Israeli military sources in Jerusalem said the blasts wounded two Lebanese refugees and two soldiers of the South Lebanon Army, an Israeli-backed militia that helps Israeli soldiers patrol the 6-mile (9.6 km) security zone just north of the border.

The attack today coincided with threats by a Hezbollah official to escalate attacks against Israeli targets in response to the abduction late last month of Obeid.

Sheikh Sobhi Toufeili, believed to be the commander of Islamic Resistance, a coalition of fundamentalist groups led by Hezbollah, said in an interview published today by the Ad Diyar newspaper that the abduction of Obeid "has inspired us to increase our jihad (holy war)."

"We will seek liberating the sheikh by all means available, except negotiations," he said, reiterating the group's unwillingness to talk with Israel before the release of Obeid.

The Islamic Resistance Organisation, in a statement about today's attack, said two commando groups infiltrated the security zone and triggered an explosion that destroyed a building used by Israeli intelligence in the village of Beit Yahoun, 5 miles (8 km) north of Israel.

The statement said another explosive charge, placed near the bombed building, was detonated minutes later as "an enemy patrol rushed to the scene of the attack." The second blast destroyed a military vehicle, the statement said.

Israel is negotiating to trade two Israeli soldiers captured in Lebanon for Obeid, a London newspaper said today.

The Sunday Times said Israel believes they died of wounds shortly after being captured by Hezbollah, and wants their remains returned.

The paper said Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir tried to keep secret the fact that they were dead, fearing the United States would pressure him to trade Obeid for US hostages taken in Lebanon.

## Just dancin' the 'night' away

BEIRUT, Aug. 20, (UPI): While shells slammed into Beirut last night, the money elite of the Faqra Club an hour's drive from the burning city dined and danced the night away to the strains of "Whatever Will Be, Will Be."

"They're like people from another planet," said one west Beirut resident who has suffered months of artillery bombardments in a city without mains power and short of food and water.

At the mountain resort, the conflict seems a long way away, even though the

Syrian frontlines are only four km (two miles) distant.

In the swimming pools, on the tennis courts and in the expensive French restaurants, Lebanon's smart set is displaying its traditional zest for life.

"Can you imagine that with this sort of madness we are still building ski resorts?" said hotel manager Nicolas Cattan.

Cattan feels the club proves a point — that Lebanon must prevail, however bad is the situation on the streets of the bat-

tered capital.

"If we did not have this we would have disappeared a long time ago," he told Reuters.

At least 760 civilians have been killed and 3,600 wounded in the past five months of "madness" as Syria by its leftist and Muslim militia allies and Christian Army Commander Michel Aoun's forces sought to destroy each other.

The Faqra Club, a chalet development northeast of Beirut, boasts three restaurants, two bars, a swimming pool,

tennis courts and a squash club.

For those able to afford the \$300,000 to buy land and build a chalet, it's not a bad place to sit out the war.

It has its own roads, garage, wells and generators and enough supplies to last 1,000 people for six months.

Many owners of chalets on the spectacular pine-clad site have moved into their holiday homes since shelling began in March. They commute to their jobs in the capital when conditions permit safe travel.

bombardment of east Beirut, but the Red Cross could not move in to take him to hospital.

"We called them, but they said they had no gasoline to make the trip. He died two hours later," Naji said.

Those who do manage to leave west Beirut for southern Lebanon have to pass the sprawling refugee camps at the entrance to the port of Sidon.

Dozens of tents are scattered on both banks of the Awali river, where hundreds of families whose houses were destroyed spend their days waiting for peace to come to their capital.

BEIRUT, Aug. 20, (UPI): A man loaded his shrapnel-damaged car with suitcases, bags and a small television set while his wife herded their three children into the vehicle.

"We can't endure this any longer," said Fatmeh Kadoura before the car sped off from the devastated Nouryeh district of Muslim west Beirut to the relative safety of southern Lebanon. "We are going to die."

She said her family was abandoning the battered capital "to live in a tent like dogs, but to live."

Kadoura and her family are part of an exodus of civilians from Beirut.

Since the current round of fighting began in March — one of the worst periods in Lebanon's 14-year-old civil strife — almost 700 people have been killed and more than 3,000 wounded.

Almost all districts in the city and its suburbs have become the targets of incessant artillery shelling.

Not all the residents are as lucky as the Kadouras. In the besieged Christian enclave, for example, many people cannot leave because Lebanese Muslim militias and Syrian troops have blocked all the roads.

Only those with enough hard currency to leave the country

have managed to escape to safety. But even they put their lives on the line, making their getaway through the barrage of artillery and mortar fire.

The only way out of the Christian area is a ferry that regularly shuttles between the Lebanese port of Jounieh and the eastern Mediterranean island of Cyprus.

The ferry makes a daily dash to the Christian-held coast under the cover of darkness to minimise the possibility of being spotted by Syrian and Lebanese Muslim gunners, who maintain a blockade on the ports.

But the radar-equipped Syrian batteries often pound any maritime target that enters their sights with dozens of 130 mm artillery guns, sowing panic among the refugees.

The ferry usually makes it safely to its destination — but not always. Just over a week ago, a shell crashed near a small wooden boat transporting people from the coast to the ferry, overturning the boat and causing two baby girls to drown.

"We cannot afford to travel, so we have to spend our days and nights in the shelter," said George Saliba, 34, a resident of Ashrafieh in Christian east Beirut.

"Every day I take my children and wife to the underground

shelter before dusk, even if it is calm, and especially if there is a ceasefire," he said.

The Lebanese have learned that the worst violence usually occurs after a ceasefire agreement, Saliba said.

Instead of rushing to a shelter when the daily bombardment begins, his family goes down to the bunker "in dignity, without having to stumble down like rats."

Even the shelters are not completely safe, "but we have no other choice," Saliba said.

Earlier this month, a 240 mm mortar slammed into a building

in the Christian village of Fayadeyeh, destroyed the second floor, pierced through the first floor and exploded in an underground shelter, killing 15 people and wounding 40 others.

The indiscriminate shelling with heavy artillery, mortars and rockets of residential districts has left scars on almost every building and apartment block throughout the divided capital.

The presidential palace, where Christian strongman Gen. Michel Aoun resides, was partly destroyed by concentrated bombardment from Muslim Lebanese and Syrian artillery.

Aoun and his general staff now live in a bunker under the palace. But it is not only the violence that has driven more than half of Beirut's estimated 1.4 million inhabitants from their homes, it is the daily living conditions.

"Our leaders are butchers. They are not human," said a resident of west Beirut who declined to be identified. "Not only do they kill us with gunpowder, they also cut the electricity, drinking water, flour and fuel."

The siege of the Christian enclave has cut off fuel supplies to the capital's main power generator, leaving those in Beirut

and the nearby hills to have no private generators without electricity.

That lack of electricity, in turn, has caused a severe shortage of drinking water.

There is also a shortage of gasoline that has prompted Christian authorities to ration its distribution of coupons that allow each motorist to get 5.2 gallons of fuel a week.

The shelling and shortages have also affected the city's hospitals and rescue workers.

Assad Naji, 36, said his neighbour was injured during one

bombardment of east Beirut, but the Red Cross could not move in to take him to hospital.

"We called them, but they said they had no gasoline to make the trip. He died two hours later," Naji said.

Those who do manage to leave west Beirut for southern Lebanon have to pass the sprawling refugee camps at the entrance to the port of Sidon.

Dozens of tents are scattered on both banks of the Awali river, where hundreds of families whose houses were destroyed spend their days waiting for peace to come to their capital.

## Arabs boycott jobs in Israel

New posts set up to stop attacks

OCCUPIED Gaza Strip, Aug. 20, (Agencies): Thousands of Palestinians heeded a call by the uprising's underground leadership today to boycott their jobs in Israel to protest new military-imposed entrance restrictions.

In the southern Gaza Strip town of Rafah, Palestinian activists fatally attacked Salem Suleiman El Oud, 36, with axes and knives last night after he refused to hand over his computerised travel permit to Israel, Arab reports said.

An Army spokesman confirmed the man was killed by other Arabs wielding axes and knives. Palestinian sources estimate only about 800 Gaza residents left the strip for work, and another 4,000 were believed staying at their Israeli workplaces since last week to avoid trouble with activists enforcing the two-week boycott. An estimated 50,000 Palestinians from Gaza work each day inside Israel.



Israeli soldiers checking Palestinians' identity cards required to leave occupied Gaza Strip for jobs. (Reuters wirephoto)

Waiting in line before dawn to leave the Gaza Strip, Salman, a 35-year-old construction worker from the Deir Al Balah refugee camp, said his Israeli boss warned him he would lose his job if he failed to show up.

"So I have no choice but to go to my work, and I'm saying now if I'm not going to my work, who will pay me the money to feed my children," said Salman, who refused to give his name.

In the last few weeks, masked activists have stepped up their efforts to confiscate the new plastic entry cards issued by the military and to warn residents against ignoring the work boycott. Gaza police also were investigating reports that masked assailants attacked a Rafah refugee camp resident yesterday with axes and knives because the man refused to give up his entry permit. The 36-year-old man died at a Gaza hospital shortly after the attack.

In Jerusalem, an Israeli soldier was stabbed and slightly wounded by an 18-year-old Palestinian shouting "God is great" outside the walls of the Old City. The midday incident occurred between the Arab and the Jewish sections of Jerusalem.

Army radio reported the Bethlehem resident told investigators he attacked the soldier in retaliation for an attack on his relatives by soldiers before the Palestinian uprising began.

Israeli soldiers have set up outposts along roads in the occupied West Bank to deter Arabs from stoning and firebombing Israeli cars, an Army spokeswoman said today.

Major-General Yitzhak Mordechai, the new commander over the West Bank, ordered the posts installed in a wider crackdown on a 20-month-old Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation, Army radio said.

"The army often changes its tactics along main roads in order to prevent attacks with stones and petrol bombs at passing cars," an Army spokeswoman said.

Ron Nachman, Mayor of the Jewish West Bank town of Ariel, told Reuters troops were already manning at least two outposts along the trans-Samaria road, a main West Bank thoroughfare.

## Israel warns Jordan

Iraq 'allowed to use' air space for spy flights

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Aug. 20, (AP): Israel has issued a warning to Jordan against allowing its air space to be used for Iraqi reconnaissance flights along the Israeli border, armed forces radio reported today.

The daily Murriv and Yediot Ahronot newspapers said Iraqi warplanes recently conducted at least two reconnaissance flights to take aerial photographs of Israel's frontier with Jordan.

The army radio and Murriv said Iraq recently shipped several

dozen tanks to Jordan and used the Jordanian port of Aqaba to supply Lebanese Christians with weapons needed to fight the Syrian Army in Beirut.

"We are watching the developments very carefully," a Foreign Ministry official said. "We have said a possible eastern front against Israel is a cause of concern. Iraq is part of that front."

The official noted close cooperation between Jordan and Iraq developed during the Iran-Iraq war but would not comment

on Israel's reported warning to Jordan.

Mordechai Gur, a cabinet member without portfolio and former chief of staff, said on armed forces radio last week that Iraqi jets had conducted flights over the Jordan valley and along the Israeli border earlier in the month.

Yehoshua Saguy, a member of parliament's foreign affairs and defence committee and a former chief of military intelligence, said Israel should warn Jordan that it

was "playing with fire."

Israeli officials, including Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, have repeatedly expressed concern over the expansion of Iraq's military capabilities as a result of the Iran-Iraq war, especially its air power and chemical warfare arsenal.

Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies estimates Iraq has some 705 combat aircraft, including Soviet-made MiG-29 fighters and SU-25 bombers.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Iran calls

NICOSIA, Aug. 20, (Reuters): A senior Iranian anti-drug official called today for a crackdown on Afghan traffickers, saying most smuggling rings active in Iran were Afghan-linked.

To date, no attention has been paid to this issue for various reasons but the time has come to launch a struggle against them," the Iranian agency IRNA quoted Mokhtar Kalantari as saying.

About two million Afghan refugees live in Iran and have relatively easy access across poorly-tended borders to Pakistan and Afghanistan, origins of most of the drugs smuggled into Iran.

**Traffickers hanged**  
MANAMA, Aug. 20, (UPI): Iran today publicly hanged another seven convicted drug traffickers as part of its policy of getting tough on narcotics abuse, "Iran's official IRNA news agency reported."

The agency said the seven hanged were found guilty of selling and distributing more than a ton of banned narcotics. It said the traffickers operated with armed gangs who brought the drugs into Iran across the border from Afghanistan or Pakistan.

#### Frenchman killed

KABUL, Aug. 20, (Reuters): A Frenchman was killed and another captured by Afghan troops in a clash with mujahideen rebels last week, a government spokesman said today.

Vincent Gornigon and Xavier Lemire, both French aid workers, were travelling in southern Afghanistan with 18 rebels from the Jamiat-Islami rebel group, Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Nabi Armani said.

#### Pastoral visit

CAIRO, Aug. 20, (Reuters): Pope Shenouda III, head of Egypt's Coptic Church and a staunch critic of Israel, leaves tomorrow for a tour of Britain, Canada, the United States and Australia.

Shenouda, accused of inciting religious unrest and banished to a desert monastery in 1981, bans the six million followers of his church in Egypt and others worldwide from visiting Israel.

"We cannot go alone to occupied Jerusalem unless we enter the place with all the Arabs and all the Palestinians," he says.

#### Israelis mourn

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Aug. 20, (Reuters): Israelis mourned the end of "dynasty" today. State-run television took off the air the American serial which captivated viewers with its conspicuous consumption amid power struggles in bedroom and bathroom.

Israel television, citing cutbacks in broadcasting hours and a desire to diversify programming, said it would screen Dynasty for the last time tonight after running the serial for more than three years.

#### Military delegation

AMMAN, Aug. 20, (KUNA): A Pakistani military delegation started here today a visit to various military bases and installations according to a programme by the Jordanian Army command.

The Pakistani delegation, headed by Army Chief of Staff Mirza Aslam Beg met last night with the Jordanian Crown Prince Hassan Bin Talal and the Jordanian Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Talib.

#### Visit successful

DAMASCUS, Aug. 20, (KUNA): Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahibzada Yagoub Khan who ended an official visit to Syria last night said upon departure that his visit to Damascus was successful.

He added that the talks which he held with Syrian officials were constructive and positive. During the visit, Khan was received by Syrian President Hafiz al-Assad and the talks with the president dealt with bilateral relations and the situation in Afghanistan and the Middle East, he noted.

#### Funeral missed

LONDON, Aug. 20, (Reuters): Roger Cooper, a Briton jailed in Iran for alleged spying, missed his mother's funeral yesterday despite family and official pleas for him to be released for it.

Cooper was jailed in November 1985 and Iranian authorities said last February he was serving a heavy sentence but the judiciary was still considering a final judgment.

Rosaleen Cooper who died aged 95 on August 4 played a central part in the campaign for her son's release.

#### Floods kill four

NICOSIA, Aug. 20, (Reuters): Floods caused by heavy rains have inundated several areas of west, north and northwest Iran, killing four people and damaging crops, Tehran Radio said today.

Two children were swept by floods near Khoy close to the Turkish border and two Kurdish villagers were killed near Divandarreh in western Iran, it said.

## New Sudanese government holds peace talks with rebels

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia, Aug. 20, (AP): Delegations representing Sudan's new military government and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army held a second day of talks today aimed at ending the north African nation's six-year-old civil war.

An SPLA delegate said the two sides had not yet agreed on an agenda for the meeting, the first between the rebels and Sudan's new government of Lt Gen. Omar Hassan al-Bashir. He seized power in a

coup June 30.

"The two sides have so far exchanged views on the general issue of war and peace in Sudan, but no specific issues have so far been discussed," the rebel delegate said on condition of not being further identified.

The private talks were proposed by Sudan's government. The SPLA delegate said he did not know how long the talks would last.

In comments to reporters before the talks opened last night, Col Mohamed Ali

Amin Khalifa, leader of the Sudanese government delegation, said his team wanted to "arrive at a final and mutually acceptable settlement through sincere and constructive dialogue."

Lam Akol, leader of the rebels' delegation, said the SPLA would "hear with an open mind the proposals by the government to solve the problem in Sudan."

Akol also delivered a lengthy press statement largely repeating a speech last week by SPLA leader John Garang, who

threatened to use a popular uprising to overthrow the government unless it stepped down and opened the way for general elections and democracy.

Akol also criticised an amnesty for rebels Bashir's government declared soon after he seized power.

"Is that relating to the resolution of the southern Sudan problem?" Akol said. "If that is indeed the intention of the junta, they must be dialing the wrong number."



# Cabinet hopes for success of Amir's Egypt visit

## Kuwaiti investments encouraged

KUWAIT, Aug. 20. (KUNA): The Council of Ministers today hoped for the success of the upcoming visit by HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah to Egypt scheduled to start on August 28.

The cabinet said following a regular weekly session today, under Acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, that the visit comes to underline the distinguished fraternal relations between the two countries and to demonstrate keenness and determin-

ation of the two leaderships to promote and develop these relations within the framework of joint Arab action.

At the onset, Acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed briefed the cabinet on the short visit to the country yesterday by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal, Planning Minister and Acting State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Dr. Abdul Rahman Al Sheikh said.

He added that Sheikh Sabah also briefed the cabinet on details of the

talks held by the Saudi minister which focussed on bilateral relations between the two sisterly countries and the situation in the region.

The council also reviewed political affairs and latest developments at the political Arab and international levels, he indicated.

### Trade

Proposed measures aimed at activating trade and industrial business in the country within the framework of rein-

igorating the national economy were also discussed by the council, Dr Awadi said.

The council of ministers further reviewed and took appropriate decisions in respect of a number of domestic issues.

Meanwhile, KUNA learnt that State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed and Finance Minister Jassem Mohammed Al Khorafi will accompany HH the Amir on his visit to Egypt.

Kuwait Information Minister

Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad said the meeting of the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed and the Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Aug 28 would be a new impetus for the two Arab countries' bilateral relations and other Arab issues.

The minister, in a statement to Egyptian newspaper 'Al Akhbar', said the meeting has a particular significance due to the fact that the Amir heads the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) and Mubarak chairs the Organ-

isation of African Unity (OAU).

It is also the first visit to Cairo by the Amir since 1976, he said.

Sheikh Jaber highly evaluated Kuwaiti-Egyptian relations and the Egyptian educational and cultural contributions to the Arab countries.

### Investments

He welcomed Egypt's facilities extended for encouraging Arab investments, stressing Kuwait's interest in investment in Egypt which materialised

in the fact that Kuwait is the largest Arab investor in Egypt.

Hailing Egypt's military production, the minister said Kuwait had purchased Egyptian armoured vehicle "Fahd" after it had been certain that Egyptian-made arms are the most appropriate to Kuwait.

Meanwhile, a 39-member team representing the Kuwaiti Information Ministry arrived in Cairo to participate in a Kuwaiti cultural week to open on August 23.

## Female participation will boost Kuwaitisation, says academic

### Economy geared around expats

By Fathima Ahmed  
Arab Times staff

A TOP Kuwaiti academic has called for a rethink of the deployment policy of Kuwaitis in the public sector, proposing a comprehensive competitive programme for civil servants.

Professor Abdul Rasool Al Moosa, professor of geography and vice-rector of research at Kuwait University, says that the time has now come to "put the right man in the right job" by opening the avenue of competition.

"It's not just a matter of putting a Kuwaiti in the place of a non-Kuwaiti. We have to place a suitable person for a particular job; this is the right approach," he asserts.

Moosa, who is examining the issue of the development of the Kuwaiti labour force in the wider context of economic and social changes, says it is imperative to gauge the ability of a person before giving him a job.

Kuwaitis comprise 110,000 or 14 per cent of the total active labour population. "It is vital to make changes in the government sector. About 90 per cent of the Kuwaiti workforce is employed in the public sector," he insists.

Moosa's suggestions include a redefinition of the hierarchical structure in the public sector, including a set criterion of promotion based on merit (job performance) and a defined wage structure with an annual bonus.

"We must improve Kuwaiti manpower not only quantitatively but also qualitatively," he said.

### Composition

The Kuwaitisation process focussed on the top administrative hierarchy, allowing professional and technical posts to be taken up by foreigners, who retained real production.

Moosa proposes a two-pronged approach to the replacement process: competition and induction of the female labour force.

Of the total Kuwaiti labour force, women form 13.8 per cent, according to the last census in 1985. Although female participation is up from 6.2 per cent in 1975, it is not considered sufficient. Of the total female workforce, 95 per cent are entrenched in the education sector, mainly as teachers. More than half of the students who graduate from schools and colleges are girls.

"Where are they?" asks Moosa.

"There is not a single Kuwaiti

girl in the sales profession: when we asked the head of the family why there are no women, they told it was not a 'suitable job' for a woman. This shows that there is still a certain bias regarding the employment of women in some jobs," he said.

The Ministry of Planning's report on the composition of the labour force in Kuwait (1975-1985) says that women are also under-represented in professional and technical work. In the clerical and service categories, they are employed as secretaries, typists, filing clerks and telephone or telegraph operators.

Moosa feels that women's role in the labour force must be enlarged. His findings are based on a field survey and interviews with over 1,250 Kuwaiti families. The study, which aims to examine Kuwaiti manpower in the context of social and economic changes, will be completed by 1990.

Moosa, who also studied migrant labour and co-authored a book with Keith McLachlan titled 'Immigrant Labour in Kuwait' says that "Kuwaitis must also be educated and made aware in the use of the foreign workforce."

He believes that non-Kuwaitis have become a part of the economic wheel. "They generate our economy; this should be corrected."

### Competition

In the book 'Immigrant Labour in Kuwait', Moosa writes "The foreign workforce has become economically vital to Kuwait in providing a range of services and skills... (and) there would be an inevitable and rapid decline in the wealth of the state following the withdrawal of the foreign groups."

Some studies show foreigners contributed over 26 per cent of total GDP in Kuwait (1980; latest statistics not available) 60 per cent of the houses are occupied by non-Kuwaitis; 50 per cent of the students are immigrants and 66 per cent of the registered patients are foreigners.

The infrastructure was built to cope with influx of foreign labour; and the economy was geared to meet the market demands. Moosa feels that this situation has to be altered drastically but pragmatically.

"We have to rebuild the economy to suit the indigenous population structure. An enlarge-



Moosa... change

ged economy and a small population don't go hand in hand," he asserts.

Quoting recent Arabic newspaper reports, he said that Kuwaitis increasingly feel that "non-Kuwaitis compete with them to stay for a longer period in the country."

"The relationship between Kuwaitis and non-Kuwaitis is complex; they do not like the idea of competing with non-Kuwaitis; this is not a usual trend," he says.

Foreigners constitute about 72 per cent of the total population (recent statistics). Moosa believes that dependence on foreign workers takes place after mass migration to any country. But this does not mean that the indigenous population becomes lazy.

"Contrary to belief, Kuwaitis are not lazy; they do not think it beneath them to do manual work. On the other hand they are discouraged to take up manual jobs because of the wage structure."

"Non-Kuwaitis accept very low wages for such work... about KD30 or 40. Now, how can a Kuwaiti survive on such meagre wages? 100 foreigners share one building, the Kuwaitis can't," he said, proposing a better wage structure to encourage the nationals to take up manual work.

"In my opinion, before we minimise foreign workers, we must build the ability of our indigenous force and encourage them to do all kinds of work to change the employment system."

"We are worried about losing

non-Kuwaiti workers but we don't find alternatives... this is not in the interest of the Kuwaiti economy: the beginning of the solution to our manpower problem is the creation of an efficient national labour force," he said.

### Early retirement

Moosa is also examining the trend of early retirement among Kuwaitis, both male and female. He rejects the idea that many Kuwaitis retire from government service to join the private sector. There are only 8,000 Kuwaitis in the private sector.

"We must encourage Kuwaitis to have a practical role in the sector," he says.

Both men and women seek early retirement, and this is one factor that is depleting the already "scarce indigenous workforce," explains Moosa. Retirement among women is also high.

"It is not justifiable for Kuwaitis to retire at the age of 40 or 42 when the country needs an active labour force," he said.

This is one factor that will be examined by Moosa in the following months.

Moosa is also studying the social changes that affect Kuwaiti manpower.

"Kuwait is now passing through a crucial social phase; the social fabric has changed dramatically in the last few decades. The family structure has weakened; the joint extended family has split up into nuclear units and the bond of kinship is receding. All these aspects must be examined in their entirety to study the development of the Kuwaiti labour force," he said.

He said the development of the Kuwaiti labour force depends on how far planners succeed in rebuilding the economic structure, charting the way for an industrial or trade-oriented base.

"We have to orient our labour force to cope within a defined economic structure; and for this a competitive job market for Kuwaitis is a vital factor, he asserts.

These will concern altering the rate and style of development so as to minimise demand for the non-Kuwaiti labour force, he said.

"Real and lasting change will come only by the dedication of Kuwaitis themselves to long-term self reliance in labour supply," he added.

## Classroom substitution progressing on schedule

By Qasem Nayef

DIRECTOR of the Construction Department at the Ministry of Education Mohammad Saud Al Zayed has said that the ministry's plan to substitute wooden classrooms with ones made of concrete is progressing steadily and that work will cover 76 classrooms in 14 schools located in the five educational areas that will be ready for use next year.

He told Seyassah, Arab Times that there are 23 new schools ready for use as of the next academic year and that his department provided maintenance services to 66 schools. Work is in progress to identify the schools no longer fit for use and those which could not operate at full-capacity.

### Manual

He paid high tribute to instructions given by the Minister of Education Anwar Al Nouri regarding the publication of a special manual covering the air-conditioning works to be made available both to students and teachers. Work in this direction is progressing smoothly and satisfactorily.

He said that 76 wooden classrooms would disappear from 14 schools for intermediate and secondary education located in Ahmadi, Jahra and Farwaniya educational areas, giving way to concrete structures.

He said that his department provided 66 schools with maintenance services, 21 of which were in the Capital educational area, and similar number in Hawally, nine in Ahmadi and Jahra and six in Farwaniya, bringing the total number of schools under general maintenance to 34 and 32 under partial maintenance.

He pointed out that studies were going on to identify the number of schools to be eliminated because of faults in construction and failure to operate, at full-capacity to accommodate the increasing student population.

Zayed added that his department is undertaking to provide football fields, and physical training gymnasiums at certain schools. These would be constructed as indoor facilities to counteract harsh weather conditions.

He stressed the need for constant control over the ministry's different facilities to protect them from careless acts of vandalism during the summer vacations and official holidays. The school management should undertake to see to the implementation of this plan the official said.



Science Club celebrates 15th anniversary

The Science Club, which was established in August 1974 celebrated its 15th anniversary with a get-together attended by a number of officials, supervisors and administrators. The evening included several cultural contests and entertainment programmes.

The main centre of the Science Club is located in Mishrif, on the Sixth Ring Road. The centre has a total of 14 sections and 9,000 members. General courses at the Science Club include electronics, astronomy, auto-mechanics, energy, chemistry, aviation and computers.

### Priority to science students

## PAAET may reduce admission percentages

THERE is a possibility of reducing the existing minimum percentage of marks required for gaining admission to the Applied Education and Training colleges during the second academic semester.

The authority will accept the admission of 3,405 students in the next semester, Hesham Al Mutawa, Dean of Admission and Registration and Dean of Students and Training Affairs at the authority said and added that a special committee has been formed to formulate an admission policy for the next five years. The policy will pay special significance to the needs of manpower in the country.

With respect to the admission of non-Kuwaitis, the official was quoted as informing a local daily that there several groups, each being processed in accordance with certain pre-set conditions and criteria. In relation to Arab expatriate children, only those with a minimum 90 per cent aggregate in total marks at the general secondary education stage will be considered for admission at the authority colleges, the official said.

He went on to state that priority will be accorded to general secondary education science section graduates. Children of employees of the authority will be treated on a par with Kuwaitis and on the basis of the number of seats available. Other groups like

scholarship and GCC students will be given preferential treatment for admission. He disclosed that the percentage of expatriate and other groups accepted at the authority will not exceed 15 per cent of the number of Kuwaiti students granted admission.

Regarding admissions during the second academic semester, Mutawa said that the admission policy will be drawn up to match the number of applicants and work market requirements based on specific specialities. Those students who have been accepted at particular colleges will not be permitted to submit fresh applications to other colleges — if their first application has been accepted.

## Plan to develop satellite station

THE project supervisor and director of the International Communications Department at the Ministry of Communication Mustafa Hussein Hashem has said that ground communication-by-satellite stations are among the most vital sites in the country.

The total construction cost of these sites is estimated at KD10.5 million, which reflects the country's determination to keep abreast of the latest developments in the field of communication. Consequently, a number of ground communication stations have been constructed to operate on the basis of modern communication systems in the world, which included Intelsat, Inmarsat and Arabsat.

These stations are used for telephone commun-

ications and TV transmission with all countries of the world which have similar ground communication stations.

There also is a coastal communication station that facilitates contacts with vessels and ships out at sea and subscribers on land.

Testation currently in operation is the one which joined the service September 9, 1985 and began operations with the Arab satellite positioned over the Atlantic and operated by three main communication systems. These include FBM-FM consisting of 612 telephone channels, a television transmission two-channel system, one operational and the other on a stand-by position and the SC - PC which is devoted to radio programmes transmission and has 48 channels.

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## Insurance companies overcrowded: residents

### Public unaware of benefits

DELAYS in processing formalities and other inconveniences encountered by the general public in relation to insurance companies is an issue that was highlighted by a local daily.

Mesha Al Saho, one of the customers interviewed at an insurance company said that insurance companies are crowded and attributed this to a "slow pace of work activity." He said that he was compelled to spend long hours at the insurance company to obtain car insurance which is a pre-requisite for completing technical vehicle inspection at the traffic department. To circumvent these inconveniences, he recommended that insurance policies should be renewed only once every two years.

Zaidan Al Onaizi, another person interviewed said that it is the first time that he has a car and believes that the fees paid by him for insuring his car are symbolic compared to the services provided by the insurance company.

He added that he did not encounter any problems in completing the transaction which took him only 10 minutes. He added, the insurance companies differ from each other in their methods of operations and depending on their organisational and managerial skills, the time taken to process an application is a reflection of each firm's competence.

Saleh Otaibi believes that Saturdays, the day off at all insurance companies should be replaced with Thursdays. He supported the technical inspection scheme for all vehicles in Kuwait and said that it ensures the safety of drivers and pedestrians. He said that the services extended by the insurance companies is a reflection of the country's standard.

One of those interviewed, who refused to be identified, recommended that insurance formalities should be completed by mail following the steps of the civil identification card renewal and issuance scheme. He added that most people who visit insurance companies have no knowledge of insurance benefits and relevant fees for each field of insurance related work. He suggested distributing brochures to enlighten the general public on the insurance policy.

Meanwhile, the manager of one of the insurance companies branches said that the problem of crowds and delays in completing transactions occurs only on Sundays — the first working day after the weekly holiday. He said that on Sundays alone, they process between 200 to 250 applications.

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# Diseased sheep report denied

## 25pc drop in meat prices

By Ali Al Masaudi

A REPORT that Australian sheep diverted from Saudi Arabia to Kuwait and some other Gulf states are infected with diseases has been categorically denied by a senior health official here in Kuwait.

Saudi Arabia last week diverted a ship carrying 200,000 live Australian sheep claiming that they were afflicted with viruses known as blue tongue disease and sheep pox.

Australian officials stated that

neither blue tongue disease nor the sheep pox, which is deadly, exist in Australia. John Kerin, minister of primary industry and energy, has said that the Saudi charges were not supported by clinical evidence. He further denied that an Australian delegation had arrived in Saudi Arabia for discussions. The ship which was turned back from the Gulf port of Dammam, the fourth such rejection in recent weeks, delivered 45,000 heads of sheep in Kuwait two days ago and continued its trip to a number of Gulf states.

Veterinary doctors in Kuwait have checked the sheep and from all indications the sheep appear in good health. Dr Sultan Al Sultan, director of the Animal Health Department at the General Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fisheries said. However, he added that further examinations will be carried out in the animal quarantine department to ensure that they continue to enjoy good health and are free of diseases.

In a recent development, a leading local livestock importing company yesterday placed advertisements in all Arabic newspapers announcing that the price of Australian sheep meat is KD0.550 a kilo. This represents a drop of approximately 25 per cent compared to the official price which is listed as KD0.750 per kilo. There is no confirmation to support the theory that this price drop is in relation to the Saudi rejection.

# Debtors to retain 1000 sq.m. of land

## 5,620 on travel ban list

A MINIMUM area of 1,000 square metres has been precluded from being seized by authorities from citizens who have been cited as debt-related defaulters by a court order.

This recommendation has been made in a study completed to determine the area of private residences that can be seized to enforce a debt-related court order. The study was undertaken by the Judgement Enforcement Department at the Ministry of Justice, Judge Salem Al Khudayer, director of the department said. He added that the recommendations of the study will be implemented after approval by the minister of justice.

An Amiri decree was issued a few months ago banning the seizure of property (private property) of those citizens who are indebted and face seizures by a court ruling.

The official said that the legal code exempted the debtor who is over 65 years of age from one jail term — particularly if he had children under 15 years of age.

The department has settled the loans of those who sustained losses as a result of the Manakha crisis and there is a plan to develop the department through Kuwaitising session rapporteurs and representatives, the official added.

### Travel ban

Khudayer said that the department had issued a total of 8,137 travel bans and cancelled a total of 6,739 during 1988. A total of 5,620 travel bans were issued up to Aug 13, 1989 and 4,132 lifted during the same period. The total number of travel bans is expected to total 8,000 by the end of 1989.

The department's main line of action is the enforcement of commercial, civil and personal status ruling which is undertaken in co-operation with relevant departments at the Ministry of Interior.

Khudayer said that there are two types of travel bans — one issued prior to the hearing and the other after. The first is usually issued at the request of the creditor and on presentation of the official documents corroborating his claim against the interior.

Payment of debts in installments is subject to the approval of the creditor, the official said.

There is a mutual arrangement between the department and the department of the country's exits and Civil Aviation, whereby the full four-component name of the person and copy of their passport or nationality will be required for issuing the travel ban.

On relation to travel bans involving Kuwaitis, the process is easy as all the needed personal details could be obtained from the Department of Immigration. With non-Kuwaitis difficulties arose in certain cases, as some may already be staying in the country illegally in which case the Immigration Department could not provide the needed information.

### Confusion

Under such circumstances the department would turn for help to the Public Authority for Civil Information where we could get the four-component name of the person in question to avoid the possibility of confusion, Khudayer said. He added that

the agencies that could issue such bans included the prosecution, the Investigative Department at the Interior Ministry and the General Conscription Headquarters.

Debtors who pay their loans should contact the department to have the ban lifted. The department notifies the person against whom a travel ban is being instituted so that they could come forward to pay their loans before the ban is issued. Such bans are not generally issued on account of failure to pay small loans, the official said.

The department undertook the implementation of all rulings, enforced by the different courts. The department had so far enforced a total of 1,041 rulings out of 1,224, while others remained to be enforced, Khudayer said.

The department will look into claims by creditor companies requesting payment from a debtor counterpart, which would be given due consideration to evaluate the financial status of the debtor to decide whether or not he was able to settle the loan.

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I WAS working as a driver on a farm. During my stay, I faced many difficulties. Now, I'm thinking of quitting my job. After one year, in the middle of my contract, I plan to go home with my own ticket and file my resignation two months before the one year period of my contract ends. Does my employer have the right to confiscate my licence when I leave the country?

YOU can leave the job, if you wish to, but you must make some agreement with the employer that you won't come back to avoid any future trouble. Even if the employer confiscates your driving licence, you can keep a photocopy which can enable you to get a replacement from the traffic department, provided the licence is valid at the time of applying for it. There is no bar on a non-Kuwaiti for wanting to leave the country.

I CAME to Kuwait in 1982 on a visa No. 18. After one year, I changed my job to another company. At the time of joining the company, I signed a contract that in case of termination or resignation, I will not request the company for a release. Now, I have the chance to get a better job.

I was told that since the contract is in restraint of trade and occupation, the law may consider it null and void. Please advise.

ACCORDING to the civil law, the right to ask for a release is invalid; only this clause of the contract will be null and void. The rest of the terms of the contract are valid. You have the right to ask for a release.

WHAT is the meaning of "double wages" on official holidays? A person gets KD10 normal wage per day. Is he entitled to get KD20 plus his normal day's salary or KD10 plus his normal day's salary?

2. How is the overtime calculated if a person works overtime in special circumstances?

1. "DOUBLE wages" is equal to KD10 plus normal day's wages.

2. If overtime is put on written orders, it is calculated by at least 25 per cent extra.

I ENTERED Kuwait in 1982 on a domestic visa No. 20. In September that year, I changed my job and the company gave me No. 18 visa. Since then, I have been working for the same company for the last seven years.

I've now found a better job and want to resign from my old company. But my new sponsor says he will give me a fresh NOC and I have to leave the country and re-enter. Can I ask for a transfer of residence? How long does it take to get a fresh NOC? If I cross the border and re-enter, will my previous seven year's stay be taken into consideration if I leave the country before the three years?

IT'S difficult to say how long it will take to obtain a fresh NOC; this depends on the procedure of the company seeking your visa and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.

As you are working for the private sector, you are covered by the labour law. If you leave the country and re-enter, it will interrupt your continuous stay; the duration of stay will be taken from the date of the last entry.

MY friend took a house on rent by lease contract from the owner. He suffered a loss. He offered me a partnership on a 50 per cent share of profit and loss. I paid him the required money and entered into a partnership agreement. The lease contract remained in his name, with my consent. For about seven months, he did not give me my profit share. After renewing the lease contract, he said "our partnership" has ended. What legal action can I take to continue my partnership?

I MUST read the contract to give you the correct answer. Anyway, a contract must be cancelled with the agreement of both parties, and you can file a case against him to check the account and to determine how much is owed to you.

I HAVE been working in a company for seven years. I want to change my job. I talked to the personnel office to get a release, but they say they won't give me one. So, I resigned and they told me to wait for 21 days. Can I insist on getting a release?

YOU can ask for your release through the Ministry of Social Affairs, giving the name of the new sponsor in the application; you also have the right to get your benefits according to the law.

IN my country of origin, I signed the photocopy of a contract. My agent told me I would sign the original in Kuwait. However, the original contract I signed here was totally different from the photocopy; in the original there is no mention of overtime wages, while in the photocopy there was. The contract terms we shall work 48 hours a week, but even if we work daily half hour extra, and the half hours are not added. Some departments count half hours put in by the staff; some don't.

Some departments are allowed to accrue their extra hours and national holidays, which are taken as a long vacation instead of just 14 days. Some departments don't allow this practice. It seems so unfair that some have privileges/advantages while others don't. Is it legal for all departments to differ in the rules?

IF you have a photocopy of the original contract, and a copy of the contract signed in Kuwait, you can send a copy of each so that I can advise you about the situation now. If some terms are not mentioned, then the labour law rules cover it.

A 48 hour a week has been decided by the labour law.

Regarding overtime, a person is entitled to payment only if he/she receives a written order of the employer; if such an order has not been made then you must prove by the time card, which shows the exact time you came and left the office. If you don't have that, you must get a witness to claim overtime through the Social Affairs Ministry and the court.

National holidays are excluded from annual leave and cannot be linked to the vacation.

I cannot comment on individual company policy.

I WOULD be highly obliged if you could tell me if it is possible to change my residence permit from dependent visa to a work permit.

I REGRET to inform you that I cannot tell you whether this is possible or not. Only the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Department of Immigration are authorised to decide on the matter.

IF I have been residing in Kuwait since 1979 on a dependent visa. In 1984, I joined a private school as a teacher; my visa was changed to No. 18. I was recently terminated.

1) What benefits am I entitled to as full and final settlement under the new labour law?

2) Is it possible to transfer my visa to a dependent locally? If not, am I entitled to get an air ticket to my country of origin?

IF you have completed nearly five years service, you are entitled to get 15 days salary for each year, calculated on the last salary; any other benefits, like accommodation, bonus, etc. provided by the school will be taken into account as a part of the salary. Vacation pay, if any due, can also be claimed.

THE transfer of residence depends on the authorities; if the application is rejected, the employer must pay the air ticket to leave, according to the new labour rules that came into effect in March 1989.

I CAME to Kuwait in February 1989 on a No. 18 visa. Now, I'm getting a new visa for which I have to go back to my country and return. When I return, will I have to undergo medical tests and go through the residence and ID card formalities?

I have obtained a visa for my brother in June but he completes studies in December. Can I get the visa extended?

YOU must undergo medical test and complete all other formalities; it may be helpful to keep copies of old documents to make it easier to process the new ones.

A visa's validity lasts three months only, and your brother must enter within that period. If he doesn't, it is automatically cancelled. It would be better to re-apply for another visa after September to enable him to come.

WHAT is the minimum salary required by an employee of Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC) to bring his family on a dependent visa? Is it a wholly owned government company and a subsidiary of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC)?

I believe KPC employees can bring their family on dependent visas if they draw KD450 per month? Isn't a KNPC employee a government employee?

THE KNPC has its own administrative policy, and rules, therefore it is upto the Immigration Department how they deal with the employees of the company.

A PERSON worked for a company for three months and was fired without 15 days notice. Does he have the right to ask for the benefits?

IF a person is on probation for the first three months of service, Article 16 stipulates that "the labourer's probation period shall be fixed in the service contract, provided it does not exceed 100 days, the employer shall have the right to terminate the services of a labourer without notice." In such a case, an employee does not have the right to claim any benefits.

I'VE worked for five and a half years on visa No. 18 with different employers and I worked from March to August 1988 with my last employer. On Aug 24, I was terminated on charges of insubordination for refusing to offload equipment because I was hired as a technician.

I hired a lawyer and went to court. The last hearing was on July 18 this year.

My employer has confiscated my documents — passport, ID card and all other papers. I just want to reclaim my personal documents, and if possible to get a release. What are my chances of getting the documents? If I lose my case, can I go to a court of appeals?

YOU have the right to get all the documents; as you already have a court case, the judge will take into consideration all factors before making a decision. If you lose the case, you can appeal. You can't transfer your residence because you have not completed three years with the last employer.

IT is common knowledge that the ends of justice are sometimes frustrated by the non-co-operation of a type of people, who even though they may be eye-witness to an occurrence, do not come forward to testify before the agency of law and order. To make such people fulfill their social, moral and legal obligations, the state agency may have to resort to some special techniques. In this background, I have the following questions:

1) As a psychological method, can the police rightfully ask a person to take in his hand holy book (for example, the Bible in the case of a Christian) and to swear by God to tell the truth while being interrogated about the occurrence?

2) Can there be any legal objection to such a method, especially when the matter goes to the court subsequently?

THE police can't force a person to take the holy book in his hand. But the normal practice of asking a person to "place his hand on a holy book" is prevalent to allow the witness or defendant to say "I swear to speak the truth and nothing but the truth." But a person can't be forced to do this during interrogation. Let me repeat, no force can be applied, even in a court of law.

A person can refuse to do such a thing, and explain his case to the court to seek redress and plead his case.

AN Asian expatriate rents a villa from its Kuwaiti owner and sublets rooms to several people with a wide profit margin for himself. But he himself does not live in that villa. Does this not amount to unauthorized business in the housing sector with a licence?

IS such a non-resident tenant liable to legal and punitive action by the police, irrespective of whether there is a contract between the house owner and the subtenant or whether the house owner has permitted subletting by the tenant? Will such a practice by a non-resident tenant be treated as a purely commercial enterprise?

IT'S a business, based on a sort of a trade contract. It doesn't matter if the tenant (subtenant) does not live in the house. Its permissible, and therefore, not illegal because the tenant is required to notify the mukhtar about the people who are living in the house. It will be treated as a commercial enterprise.

I WORKED for a company for more than three years on a monthly salary of KD300. The employer said he would change it from monthly to daily payment, giving me KD10 per day. I think it will not make much difference. Shall I refuse it or accept it? If the employer insists, what can I do?

ARTICLE 29, Part 3, says that an employer may not transfer any monthly wage earner to a daily, weekly for piece work without the consent of the labourer. This means, the employer cannot just transfer you to a daily payment basis, unless you accept the offer, which will be to his advantage.

Firstly, your indemnity would be affected. Article 54 stipulates that if an employee's services are terminated, he is entitled to get 15 days salary for the first five years; the same article states that a daily wage worker gets 10 days salary.

Secondly, payment of monthly salary excludes Fridays, which means that a person who is paid monthly earns a daily wage of more than KD10.

And if the employer insists on taking the action, you can claim your benefits through the Social Affairs Ministry; or if you cancel the contract you make a claim for all your benefits.

I WORKED in a company from Feb 1, 1989, and left on August 15, 1989. Do I have the right to get my benefits and vacation salary?

FIRSTLY, you don't have the right to get any benefits because you resigned; secondly, you are not entitled to any benefits as you did not complete one year service; thirdly, the employer does not owe you vacation salary. To claim annual leave payment, a person must complete one year service.



Kuwait Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Sulaiman Mejed Al Shaheen and Saudi Ambassador to Kuwait Sheikh Abdulla Sidari (pictured above) ratified yesterday an agreement signed between the two countries on the property of their citizens in the natural zone.

# Peace accord will break stalemate, say ministers

LONDON, Aug 20, (KUNA): Six Kuwaiti government ministers have agreed that the possibility of renewed fighting between Iran and Iraq was remote but believed a peace accord between the former Gulf belligerents was the only way to restore normalcy to the region.

The Kuwaiti officials made their comments in a survey on the subject published here today by the Saudi Arabic-language Al Sharq Al Awsat newspaper to mark the first anniversary of the Gulf war ceasefire.

State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed said re-ignition of hostilities was possible but not likely, as there were growing signals that both Iran and Iraq had opted for peace and intend to devote their potential to reconstruction.

The ceasefire, he said, was a key milestone on the road to lasting and comprehensive peace between the two neighbouring countries.

"We in Kuwait hope this stage would be reached in the shortest time possible for peace, security and tranquility to dwell on the region, including all Gulf littoral states," he said.

He believed a firm peace between Iran and Iraq would "definitely mean entente in the form and quality of relations among all countries of the region."

Planning Minister Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi told the paper that to avert renewed fighting, the two combatants will have to agree on a clear approach toward all-out peace which would in turn spare the region further tragedies.

The will of peace shall win sooner or later, he emphasised.

Finance Minister Jassem Mohammed Al Khorafi said there must be a peace agreement as to spare the region from any new spiral of military confrontation

and further losses. He noted that Kuwait dealt with the Gulf war with a great deal of wisdom and prudence, thus avoiding being dragged into its fire, though not without paying a dear price.

State Minister for Services Affairs Issa Al Mazidi called on Iran and Iraq to sign a peace accord that would make it possible for other Gulf littoral countries to contribute to peace opportunities created by the UN Security Council Resolution 598.

He believed the current stalemate in peace negotiations between Iran and Iraq does not bode well, as it had hampered an expected economic recovery in the area.

Yet he joined his fellow ministers in discounting the possibility of fresh bouts of fighting, saying peace chances were stronger than any other possibilities.

State Minister for Housing Nasser Abdulla Al Roudhan said a ceasefire collapse was out of the question despite reports of sporadic and isolated skirmishes and truce breaches.

He was particularly optimistic about the much hoped-for peace accord saying it was coming "sooner or later."

Roudhan emphasised the need for Iran and Iraq to agree on a swap of prisoners of war to end a tragic aspect of the eight-year war.

Trade and Industry Minister Faisal Abdul Razzaq Al Khalid said the cessation of hostilities would naturally mean that all efforts would be directed at development and reconstruction.

He expected the once flourishing re-exportation and contracting businesses to boom again along with such other activities as investment and industrial production.

# New Iraqi motorway being built

A PROJECT to link Iraq with Kuwait and Jordan by road is being undertaken by Iraq's Motorways and Bridges Authority and is expected to be completed during the first half of 1990. The length of the motorway is envisaged to be 1,200 kilometres and is to be built at a cost of approximately \$3.5 billion.

Giving these details, Adnan Mazlum, director of the authority disclosed that Iraq also has ambitious plans to link Baghdad with the Turkish and Syrian borders through another motorway.

This project is intended to be executed in the near future and will also link states of the area with motorways leading to Europe.



Thief arrested

Ahmedi securitymen arrested Hasan A., a non-Kuwaiti for carrying out a number of robberies. The accused broke into a number of commercial shops in Fahheel area and fled away with cash and some other articles. All the stolen materials were seized from him. He was later referred to concerned authorities for further investigations.

# NEWS IN BRIEF

## Ethiopian message

KUWAIT, Aug 20, (KUNA): HH the Amir received today a message from the Ethiopian head of state President Mengistu Haile Mariam.

Ethiopian presidential envoy Kassa Kebede relayed the message to HH during an audience here today.

The audience was attended by Minister of State for Services Affairs Eisa Mohammed Al Mazidi.

## Ports tariff

THE decision issued of late by the Council of Ministers pertained to the unification of some tariffs at the ports in Shuwaikh and Shuaiba based on studies currently in progress. Dr Ibrahim Makki, director general of the Public Ports Authority said.

Speaking to a local newspaper, he said that the authority will participate in the meeting to be held next September by port officials in the GCC states where discussion would focus on the bases for unifying tariffs in the region.

He added that there are ambitious plans to develop certain anchorages and that endorsement and budgetary allocations by the Ministry of Planning are awaited.

## Zour club

ASSISTANT Undersecretary for General Education at the Ministry of Education, Suad Al Refai visited Zour Summer Club for girls and was appraised of the club's different activities and girls handicrafts in this field.

At the end of the visit, members of the cultural activity at the club interviewed the assistant undersecretary to obtain a brief summation of her concepts reflecting aspects of education and summer clubs in general.

Refai stressed that women are able to prove their abilities in the international world and particularly in the Kuwaiti society. She pointed out that women should have the freedom to express their views towards being productive and active members in the society.

## Literary campaign

MANAMA, Aug 20, (GNA): Bahrain has prepared a full-scale programme of activities to mark the 1990 International Anti-illiteracy Year festivities.

The programme, encourages each and every educated citizen to help one uneducated to become literate and urges all companies to sponsor the organisation of special anti-illiteracy classes.

The programme also stress that no driving licences will be issued to those unable to read or write.

The Bahrain 'Akhhbar Al Khasheef' daily today said that the programme also emphasises the necessity of co-ordination between the GCC states in the field of information as a preliminary step towards the launching of a joint Gulf anti-illiteracy Week, within the framework of international festivities.

## Interior message

MUSCAT, Aug 20, (KUNA): Omani Interior Minister Bader Bin Saud Bin Hareb today received a message from his Kuwaiti counterpart Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, Radio Muscat reported.

The message deals with consultations, co-ordination and exchange of views between the two countries, the broadcast added.

The Kuwaiti Charge d'Affaires here Barrak Al Nasser conveyed the message to Omani Interior Undersecretary Amer Al Hawasni.



## ARAB TIMES

### Thought for today

THE sun also shines on the wicked — Seneca, Roman scholar (about 54 B.C. - 39 A.D.).

## Rivalry claims nightly victims

### Tamils fight for supremacy

THE power struggle within the Tamil minority claims new victims every night as gunfire reverberates throughout this war-battered town. "We are now so brutalized that revenge, revenge and more revenge is our credo. We are wiping out our own Tamil youth," said Vellupillai Prabhakaran, General Secretary of the Eelam People's Revolutionary Organization of Students. Prabhakaran's group, known by its acronym EROS, is widely regarded as having close ties with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the most powerful Tamil guerrilla group. For the past 22 months, the Tigers have been fighting the Indian Peacekeeping troops who were sent to disarm them. But they also are part of a shadowy war for supremacy within the Tamil community. Nights in Jaffna are shattered almost continuously by gunfire and explosions. Visitors ask the staff at the Gnanam hotel, one of the few Jaffna hostels still open, what is going on. They receive a stock answer: "Nothing, sir. Somebody is doing some target practice." The next morning the targets — young Tamil men — are found lying in congealing pools of blood in the middle of the streets of Jaffna and surrounding villages.

#### Killing

"We don't know who is killing whom, but the dead turn up almost as a ritual every morning, and the sounds of gunfire, explosions, crying and wailing are part of our daily night life," a senior Tamil newspaper editor said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "The brutalization has reached such an extent that it is part of our lives. No one is interested even in knowing who a dead corpse is." Like many other Jaffna residents, he blamed the bulk of the killings on the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front, whose members are permitted by the Indian troops to carry arms openly. The Liberation Front and two other Tamil groups support the Indian presence and have the most to lose if the Indian soldiers depart and leave them to the mercy of the Tiger guerrillas. The front, once a guerrilla organization, has entered politics and controls the provincial administrative council.

Tamil militants and civic leaders estimate at least 10,000 people have died in predominantly Tamil northeastern Sri Lanka since July 30, 1987, when Indian troops arrived to enforce a peace pact designed to give the ethnic minority a measure of autonomy. That's double the estimate from Sri Lankan and Indian government sources, who say 11,000 have died since the Tamil revolt started in 1983.

Tamil rebel groups initially accepted the Indian-sponsored peace plan, but the Tigers soon reneged and started attacking the foreign soldiers who were sent to disarm them. Score-settling and power struggles erupted among the erstwhile Tamil guerrilla allies.

The Tigers said they wanted a separate homeland, not autonomy. Militants in the Tamil community said they needed a separate state to preserve their Hindu faith and Tamil language and to fight what they said was discrimination by the island's Sinhalese majority. Tamils comprise 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million people. Sinhalese, who are mostly Buddhist and control the government, account for 75 per cent.

The brutalization that worries people in Jaffna, who used to have a population of 150,000 but now suffers constant migration in and out, is reflected by the prevalence of bodies.

Taxi drivers, asked if they know where to find any victims of the previous night's gunfire, tend to respond like Nadarajah Sivagurunathan did when a passenger hopped in his 35-year-old Morris Minor. "There are two bodies in Kondavil, one near Nallur, two others at Kokuvil, but one more closer to Jaffna town near the railway line," Sivagurunathan said, reeling off a list of locations within five miles (eight kilometres) of downtown Jaffna. "Where shall we go?"

By nightfall, in the courtyard of the Gnanam Hotel, a Tamil crooner sings a love song to the hotel staff and a half-dozen guests.

"The night scares me because you are not here by me. Why do you expose my vulnerability to a cruel world? Come here and hold my hand. I am scared." (Reuter — Jaffna)

### PRESS REVIEW

A KUWAITI newspaper said 14 years of fighting in Lebanon has shown that no party can win the civil war, and it stressed that conciliation and negotiations are the only way out of the Lebanese crisis.

Daily *Al Rai Al Aam* criticised France's gunboat diplomacy towards Lebanon, saying it cannot salvage half of Lebanon and exclude the other half from its care.

The French naval presence off Lebanon is directed against one of the Lebanese communities. It would have been better for France to initiate with its European partners a peaceful initiative to pacify war-torn Lebanon. *Al Rai Al Aam* commented.

The Lebanese war has proven that no one, no matter how strong he is, can win the battle for supremacy, the newspaper went on.

Only Arab mediation, enjoying European and superpower blessing, can achieve conciliation and a peaceful settlement to the Lebanese crisis, the paper concluded. (KUNA)

### TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1673 — Britain's Prince Rupert is defeated off Texel, marking end of British efforts to land troops in Holland, freeing Dutch coast from blockade.
- 1689 — Louis of Baden defeats Turks, takes Niss and occupies Bulgaria.
- 1808 — British forces defeat French at Vimiero, Portugal.
- 1911 — German Emperor William II speaks at Hamburg on Germany's "place in the sun," which he says its Navy will secure for her.
- 1917 — German forces attack Russians on Riga, Latvia, front in World War I.
- 1940 — Leon Trotsky, communist revolutionary, dies of wounds inflicted by assassin in Mexico City.
- 1943 — It is disclosed that Japan has evacuated its last north American foothold in Pacific war — the Aleutian island of Kiska.
- 1959 — Baghdad pact changes name to Central Treaty Organization (CENTO); Hawaii becomes 50th state of United States.
- 1963 — Buddhists are arrested and martial law is imposed in South Vietnam.
- 1968 — Soviet forces occupying Czechoslovakia seize liberal communist leader Alexander Dubcek.
- 1975 — United States lifts 12-year ban on exports to Cuba by foreign subsidiaries of US companies, but embargo on direct trade between Cuba and United States remains in effect.
- 1983 — Philippine opposition leader Benigno Aquino is assassinated as he steps from plane in Manila after three years of self-imposed exile in United States. The assassin in shot dead.
- 1985 — Leftists march on Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos' palace as tens of thousands of other Filipinos stage largest anti-government protests in a year.
- 1986 — Soviet energy officials concede that Chernobyl disaster badly hurt nation's nuclear power programme.
- 1987 — Thousands attended services in Manila on fourth anniversary of the assassination of President Corazon Aquino's husband.



Crowds fight their way into a Warsaw meat shop for a share of the meagre stock.

### Economic problems rarely more serious

## Solidarity's joy tempered

SOLIDARITY'S jubilation in breaking 45 years of communist domination in Poland is tempered by the knowledge that the country's political and economic problems have rarely been more serious.

"It won't be easy but I would like people to feel that things will be better," said Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the Solidarity newspaper editor who was nominated on Saturday as Poland's next prime minister.

"There are huge troubles in Poland. I don't even know yet what all the troubles are...but I am a believer and I believe that Providence cares for us," Mazowiecki said on Friday after a meeting with President Wojciech Jaruzelski.

Even as Solidarity's historic moment arrived, miners, power workers, medical staff, transport workers and other Poles were on strike in protest at food price rises imposed by the communist authorities on Aug 1.

In some Warsaw shops, it was impossible to find a bottle of milk or a loaf of fresh bread on Saturday. Shelves in some state meat shops were totally bare. Shoes, cotton shirts, televisions and refrigerators are in short supply.

#### Petrol

Even Mazowiecki's own chauffeur-driven government car, a Polish-made Polonez, ran out of petrol on Friday. He had to abandon it because there are queues of more than two hours at petrol stations in

Warsaw.

After a credit-fuelled boom in the 1970s, Poland economy has collapsed. Inflation is nearing 200 per cent. The foreign debt is \$39 billion. Poland ought to pay almost \$3 billion a year in interest, but it cannot afford to.

Agriculture is suffering. Unlike elsewhere in East Europe, peasants own most of the land privately. But they have long been starved of modern equipment and fertilisers. Now there is not enough fodder for livestock. That means more meat shortages.

Mazowiecki will try to implement Solidarity proposals for boosting the private sector and taking industries out of the hands of the communist bureaucracy. He can expect resistance from officials with a vested interest in centralisation.

The Solidarity-led government may also face trouble from its natural working-class supporters. Solidarity strategists know that an austerity programme is necessary to revive the economy, but the union is pledged to defend living standards.

Solidarity claims only 2.7 million members, compared with 10 million in its first legal era of 1980-81. There is a big question mark over whether its leadership can persuade union radicals, as well as non-Solidarity workers, not to strike.

Working in Solidarity's favour is its image as a force for freedom and national dignity. It has the support of the Roman Catholic church, to which

most Poles belong. Union leader Lech Walesa is still a hero to millions.

But no government, no matter how popular, can haul Poland out of economic crisis without Western help, and it is here that Mazowiecki may face his most serious difficulties.

#### Popular

Solidarity published a policy blueprint last month calling for \$10 billion in Western funds — 4.3 billion in new government and bank credits, three billion from the World Bank and 2.7 billion from the International Monetary Fund.

The West, while not wanting to discourage Poland's reforms, has reacted cautiously. "In my opinion, the optimism of the Poles doesn't really take account of the realities. The claims are immoderate," a European official said.

The West is preparing an emergency food aid programme which should help ease the most acute shortages, and it is likely to organise a rescheduling of Poland's debts later this year.

But Mazowiecki is locked in a race against time. Now that Solidarity has crossed the point of no return, many Poles will expect the union to deliver them a better quality of life, and sooner rather later.

"I am afraid of many things, but if that was the whole story I would be a total pessimist. Someone has to try," Mazowiecki said. (Warsaw — Reuter)

## Berlin women blazing a trail

THE "witches' breakfast" convenes each Tuesday. A new law requires gender-neutral references in business letters. And Berlin has the first hotel in continental Europe that is off-limits to men.

A sudden swell of the feminist wave in West Berlin has caught many residents of the city-state by surprise, and saddled the leftist government, dominated by women, with the role of blazing a trail for female politicians nationwide.

The nation's first state government with women in the majority stemmed from state elections Jan 29, which brought to power a coalition of leftist Social Democrats and environmentalists. West German women of all political persuasions now see the West Berlin government as both a sign of a new age that is more accepting of women's authority, and as a test case that could influence women's political fortunes in the future.

Eight of the 13 ministers who make up the Senate that governs West Berlin are women. They caucus over croissants and coffee each Tuesday morning in a ritual that has been dubbed the "witches' breakfast."

"It is really quite productive, and it lets all these women blow off steam so that it doesn't interfere with the whole senate's business," said Alice Uebe, an active member of the Social Democratic party, or SPD, and chief adviser to Culture Minister Anke Martiny.

The women's circle is credited with pressing efforts to improve living conditions in this densely populated island of West Germany walled off from the Communist East.

Its members have introduced measures to reduce air and noise pollution, improve housing availability and expand day-care availability for increasing numbers of women who work outside the home.

While many Berliners attribute improvements in life to the women's influence, the female senators also take the blame for decisions and edicts that don't set well with the public.

Berlin Interior Minister Erich Paetzold decided last month to require that official correspondence be gender-neutral, which in German requires what sounds like a feminine ending on all nouns and titles. For example, a male resident is a Berliner, but a female is a Berlinerin. The gender-neutral term is supposed to be Berlinerin, with the last "i" capitalized.

#### Founding

What has become known as the "big i" decision is widely ridiculed as so much silliness resulting from a female majority. Christian Democratic Union, called the edict "perverse."

The linguistic squabble typifies the kind of teapot tempest that is stirred up often in Berlin, which in atmosphere is more like an isolated village than a metropolis of 2 million. The female-dominated leadership has added a new episode to the protracted political drama.

"People are always looking for excuses to complain about the government, especially now with all those women," observed Peter Rudolph, a taxi driver in his 50s. "They aren't doing anything the

male politicians weren't doing, but everyone notices now."

Monika Herrmann, one of the founding members of the women-only Artemisia hotel and art gallery in Berlin, says the new government that took office in mid-March has breathed life into the previous sleepy women's movement.

But she and others also said the sudden switch has left some men feeling defensive and threatened.

"For a long time, many people have confused emancipation with sexual alternativism," Ms Herrmann said in an interview at the hotel, decorated in soft hues of taupe, mint and rose. "Women are doing things for themselves, and men fear their power is being reduced."

A member of the city government's 35-women advisory council on family and social affairs, Ms Herrmann said the women in positions of authority now recognize they have to move carefully to achieve what they want without undermining their electoral support.

Meanwhile, women politicians in other parts of the country keep a close eye on Berlin activities to gauge their own standing with voters.

"The Berliners have given the situation for political women a step up, but we are seeing this in other areas of the country as well, in smaller cities," said Ingrid Scherbrock, director of the CDU's Women's Union. "What kind of example the Berlin coalition poses remains to be seen, but it has certainly raised everyone's consciousness."

Since its creation, the new Senate has been repeatedly tainted by controversy.

### Addressing grievances

SIR: Congratulations, United Malayalee Organisation officials for your successful persuasion resulting in Air-India reducing the air transport charges on corpses to India to a flat rate of KD100. This again goes to prove that dedicated and collective move against injustices will certainly pay off. Let this be a precursor to the many smouldering grievances aired by the non-resident Indians.

It is rather gratifying to note that UMO is, of late, proving to be more aggressive and service-oriented, looking to the needs of the NRI community — a vacuum long existing. This trend calls for unbiased support from all sister organisations in an effort to impart full confidence to the UMO officials in their crusade against the many biting problems of the NRI.

It is amusing to note that the big signboard leading to the emigration counters in the departure wing of Kuwait International Airport No. (1) paradoxically reads "Immigration" instead of "Emigration".

Some of the cinema houses are changing their show timings without prior intimation to the public, thus causing a lot of inconvenience. Will Kuwait

Cinema Company please add the timings also to their announcements in the newspapers.

C.K. Satyraj,  
Safat.

### Travesty of justice

IT is a sheer mockery of justice: Gustav Christer Pettersson sent to prison on purely circumstantial evidence and the evidence of Mrs Palme, who was compelled to give evidence by the police at that. If she saw him carry a gun, why did she not make any moves to ward off his attack? What about forensic evidence? Surely the shot-gun would have left tell-tale marks on his clothing. Where is the gun? Any passerby could have been near Mr Palme while the real culprit a CIA/secret agent was running away in the six minutes that are still unaccounted for. The real culprit is obviously a policeman and that is why evidence is lacking. Why could not the police have come up with evidence if not for obstruction within the police force itself. Why did the police arrive later.

Why didn't the policeman at the scene of the crime apprehend the culprit in the act with the murder weapon? If Pettersson had been standing near her

husband after the crime, he could NOT be the criminal, because no criminal would wait after the commission of the crime to allow himself to be caught. The real culprit must have been heavily bribed since the person involved is very important. Even the criminal must be of an international reputation, similar to the person who was hired to kill John F. Kennedy. He CANNOT be a Swede, because then the whole conspiracy would fall apart. It must have been hatched in a Latin American country using a French fast-shooter in the Mafia, who could erase all evidence a master mind at work, not an idiot like poor Gustav who unfortunately, like thousands of others, was a drug addict. Drug barons control this trade and earn millions from such unfortunate ones. Is the evidence consistent with firing from a close range. Perhaps there could be telescopic gunshot and the person had been waiting for Mr Palme to emerge. This is the modus operandi in such instances. That could explain the missing of the murder weapon — it could be a muzzled shot leaving no evidence.

Joseph Thomas,  
Safat.

### Art Buchwald

## Mr Clean

IT was an environmental dream come true. The Exxon oil company announced it had completed its Alaska oil spill cleanup to everyone's satisfaction and by September would close up shop.

The man responsible for the Exxon success was Joe Sludge, who has personally shined 90 per cent of all the rocks in Valdez. Joe was in Washington to testify in front of a congressional committee, and I found him sitting by the reflecting pool, cleaning oil sludge from between his toes.

"No one thought you could do it," I said.

Joe replied, "I couldn't have done it without the help of the captain of the Valdez and his merry crew, as well as my superiors in the home office. A company like Exxon doesn't operate in a vacuum." "Are you permitted to tell me how you won the environmental battle?"

"We just took a page out of Vietnam. We fought the good fight and then we said, 'The hell with it — we'll finish up next spring.'"

"How many rocks did Exxon polish up after the spill?"

"A lot more than anyone can imagine. But it isn't just cleaning them that we should get credit for. There are rocks in Valdez you can eat a smoked salmon off of — that is, if you can find a salmon in Valdez. But the main point is that Exxon gave it its best shot and now it's Mother Nature's turn to do some of the dirty work."

"Joe, everyone knows you have been diligent in saving the shoreline of Alaska, but you have to admit there wouldn't have been a spill if it hadn't been for Exxon. Shouldn't a neutral party decide when it's time to hang up the towel?"

"The only ones to judge such an important matter are the stockholders. After all, the cost of the cleanup is coming out of their pockets. Most of our stockholders care more about the environment than Exxon critics."

"Why is that?"

"Because they have a vested interest in how much Exxon spends to clean up its mess. Unlike environmentalists, stockholders don't let sentiment interfere in tough crude oil decisions. Exxon management could waffle at any time, but the pragmatic stockholder never will."

"I can see that the stockholders are less sentimental about Alaska's environment, but doesn't a non-negotiable pullout jeopardize the good name of Exxon?"

"No, because the American people are fair. They know good spills from bad spills. Valdez could have been a disaster if we hadn't cleaned up the rocks. The Alaskan shoreline is far more epic and span now than it was before the spill. If Exxon hadn't had such a top-flight training programme, the brave captain of Valdez might have beached his ship in San Francisco harbour."

"Or perhaps in one of the Great Lakes," I added.

Joe said, "If you want the truth, the reason Exxon is signing off is that we're sick and tired of doing everybody's else's laundry. Do you know that I have personally cleaned rocks along the shore, and I am certain that the oil on them did not come from our ship?"

"If you were so sure, why didn't you just throw those rocks back in the sea?" I asked.

"Because Exxon doesn't operate that way. When it comes to oil spills, our policy has always been to clean every stone — with no questions asked. That's why we're known in the oil business as Mr Clean of the Sea."

Los Angeles Times Syndicate

## Quote me

"It was a traditional Christian marriage and there were no naked hookers. What's the deal?" — Minister George Flint, who married a couple at a Nevada brothel.

"I don't feel guilty about it." — Malcolm Forbes responding to a question on how he can justify a \$3 million birthday bash amid the poverty of Morocco.

"It was the best start of my life. Anybody who has followed my career knows that I am not a good preliminary swimmer, so my prelim time of 22.29 had me pretty pumped up. I knew I had a real legitimate shot at the world record tonight." — Tom Jager said after setting a world record in Pan Pacific swimming championship.

"The clubs know what is expected of them. No club is treating this lightly. Speculator safety within grounds now has total priority." — Lord Justice Taylor, who headed the inquiry into the April 15 stadium disaster, said of soccer safety.

"This is not the way to treat a minister just a week before he completes nine years of serving in the cabinet... this issue has its roots elsewhere." — Behzad Nabavi, Iranian Minister of Heavy Industries said.

"If I can beat her in the 100-metre freestyle, it will really make my day." — Gillian Aikio Thompson of Philippines said as she is looking forward to challenge Malaysia's Nurul Huda Abdullah in Sea Games swimming event.

"Every year I have gotten closer and closer to it (the record), but when I was younger I wasn't so worried because I had time. Now I'm getting older. I like the track here. It's very fast, and the pace makers did a great job." Said Aquita of Morocco said after breaking a 11-year-old record in men's 3,000-metre mark at the Weltklasse meet.

"It was the hardest of all world record to get." — Said Aquita said.

"I heard a roar when Mike knocked in his bunker shot and knew I needed a birdie but I cut the legs off my drive and that was it." — Peter Senior said after PLM Open golf match.



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Low interest loans to help contribute to industrial development

## Invest in productive sectors, businessmen told

THE Governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait, Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah said domestic inflation had registered a record drop in the last two years.

Sheikh Salem, in an interview published in Kuwait in a local daily, said the inflation rate in 1988 did not exceed 2.2 per cent and in 1987 was only 0.9 per cent.

The governor highlighted that the Central Bank supports almost daily the Kuwaiti dinar exchange rate against the world major currencies and intervenes in the foreign exchange markets with the local banks.

As a result of this intervention, he elaborated, the KD exchange price index remained within the range of 94.65 and 97.06 in the period from March 1988 until March 1989 despite tangible fluctuations in the US currency's exchange rate during the same period.

Sheikh Salem said the fall in the state's general revenues did not result in effective cuts in the public expenditure which kept up growth rate in the Kuwaiti economy.

Public debt bonds, added the governor, provided the local banks with profitable investment opportunities and raised the rates of their financial revenues as it attracted large portions of the banks' liquidity surplus.

Sheikh Salem expected that the new law stipulating establishment of financial investment funds would increase the volume of investments in the local market and reinvigorate performance of the Kuwaiti stock exchange after having taken a number of pertaining measures.

He urged businessmen to employ their funds through investment in productive sectors, whether in Kuwait or other Arab

countries instead of currencies and commodities speculations in world markets.

Sheikh Salem called upon the private sector to invest in the local market stressing that the opportunity for that is available at present. Recommending the great efforts created by the state in the past several years to build the economic infrastructure and create what he described as a productive economy, Sheikh Salem said that the process of economic development has become well prepared at present for the private sector to direct its investments locally.

He said that the private sector should learn from the Manakhi crisis and realise that running after speculations for quick profits may result in losing both efforts and funds. He emphasised that the picture and reality of the productive sectors of the Kuwaiti economy would have been different by now, had those funds and efforts been employed in true investment process.

He added that the government has always been working to expand the production base of the local economy and diversify the sources of income. He said that any observer can easily realise that this trend has been one of the most important milestones in the state's development plans.

He said that the directives of the country's financial and monetary policies were also designed to serve this purpose.

The governor added that the government through public expenditure has played a tangible role in backing the productive base of the local economy through its contributions in many production-oriented companies and in providing easy-term loans. He added that the government also established the

Industrial Bank of Kuwait and provided it with low interest loans in order to help it contribute to industrial development in the country. Recently, the governor said, the government also assigned the Industrial Bank with an agricultural portfolio in order to provide easy-term loans for the agricultural sector. He added that the financial and monetary policies adopted by the concerned authorities, especially in stabilising the rate of exchange of the Kuwaiti dinar and the interest rates, have promoted the local commercial banks ability to provide the necessary finance for the local economy.

Sheikh Salem said that the current interest rates structure, introduced by the Central Bank last December, is more flexible and provides enough freedom for the Central Bank to act in the right time to influence the interest rates to comply with any international developments in this connection.

Sheikh Salem attributed the slow-paced economic growth in the country to the absence of initiative on the part of the private sector. He stressed that the government has been performing its role accurately in the economic growth and development process. He added that the government has not cut its public expenditure volume as a result of the drop in the state's revenues.

On the contrary, the state continued with its development programme and had to seek public borrowing in order to maintain the level of public spending.

Asked if the Central Bank used the state treasury bills and bonds in order to help the local commercial banks solve the problem of surplus funds with the banks,

Sheikh Salem said that the public borrowing means was a great opportunity for the local banks to direct part of their liquidity surplus in buying these means.

He said that this has positively resulted in improving the performance of these banks and enhance their returns. He said that with the introduction of the state treasury bills and bonds, the banks improved their way in managing their financial surplus. He added that the treasury bills and bonds besides helping the state cover its budget deficit, have also helped the Central Bank in increasing the efficiency to control the levels of liquidity in the banking system and ensure the stability of the monetary market.

He added that among the most important fruits of issuing the state treasury bills and bonds is the great demand for them by individuals and establishments in the private sector. He announced that the ownership of the private sector, other than the local banks, from the bills and bonds exceeds KD200 million at the end of June this year.

Sheikh Salem described the prices of shares during the Manakhi as totally unrealistic as they were purely speculations aimed at achieving huge and quick profits. He added that it remains unwise to describe the situations at the Kuwait Stock Market with those which prevailed during the Manakhi. He said that many measures have been taken aimed at promoting and encouraging dealing at the stock market. He said that the Central Bank has completed a study aimed at allowing debtors who have documented their loans settlements, to trade in their mortgaged assets in accordance with certain conditions. This, he said,



Sheikh Salem

will result in improving these assets. He hoped that such measures would help in activating trading in the shares market.

Sheikh Salem denied that there is an overlapping in the duties of the Central Bank and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry concerning the money exchange companies. He said that the Ministry of Commerce issues licences for opening money exchange companies. But these companies cannot start business before registering with the Central Bank.

Moreover, the Central Bank is the official supervising body over all money exchange companies in order to ensure they apply the rules and regulations and do not indulge in activities banned by the laws. The Central bank has

the right to cancel the Registration of any violating company.

Asked why the supervision role of the CBK on money exchange companies is limited to their local activities, Sheikh Salem said that the CBK does not interfere in the way these companies run their affairs, including selecting their correspondence or commission houses abroad.

He said that the CBK inspects the financial positions of these companies and whether they commit to the rules. He added that the CBK has repeatedly warned the public from dealing in speculations in the financial markets through such companies. He said that the rule ban these companies from dealing in future commodities.

## KD rate eases against dollar

US trade deficit narrowed

Based on last week's opening middle market FX rates, the KD exchange rate was easier against the US dollar ending the week at 298.18 fils compared with its week before last closing of 295.81 fils. The KD was higher against the pound sterling, ending the week at 470.95 fils compared with its week before last closing of 480.25 fils.

The KD was easier against the Jordanian dinar ending the week at 402.94 fils compared with its week before last closing of 380.74 fils. The KD was slightly easier against all other GCC currencies compared to the week before last.

As to the KD money market, short term interbank rates traded lower over the week. One-month interbank rates traded over the week within 8.37-8.752 per cent range compared with 8.56 per cent-9.12 per cent range the week before last. While 3-month interbank rates traded within 8.62 per cent-8.81 per cent range compared with 8.81 per cent-9.12 per cent range the week before last. Rates for longer periods traded also lower within a relatively narrow range of 8.68 per cent-8.87 per cent and 8.75-8.87 per cent for 6 and 12 months respectively.

### World stock markets

Earlier in the week, Wall Street stock prices fell sharply on the belief that interest rates are not headed lower any time soon. However, receding interest rate worries underpinned prices later in the week. Share prices moved higher as investors were adjusting to the view that the Fed will not soon accommodate the markets with lower interest rates and on a surge of late buying connected with the expiring of certain stock index futures and index options. The Dow Jones Industrial opened the week at 3677 and closed higher at 3693, recording a gain of 9 points over the previous week's closing of 3684.

Share prices on the London Stock Exchange fluctuated last week, falling on a negative week-end press comment after recent concern the market had become overvalued and rising on a general shortage of stock and gains on Wall Street. The FTSE-100 opened the week at 2326 and closed higher at 2345, but recorded a loss of 6 points over the previous week's closing of 2351.

### US dollar

The dollar traded higher over the week especially against the yen and the mark. The release of smaller than expected US trade deficit has helped to push the dollar to a great extent. However, the dollar uptrend has been limited due to the threat of central bank interventions.

US trade deficit for the month of June narrowed to \$8.17 billion down from \$10.24 the month before. The new figure of trade deficit was much below market forecast of \$9.2 billion. US housing starts were up in July at 1.43 million units at an annual rate, which is slightly above expectations of 1.41 million. Housing starts for the month before were recorded at 1.42 million units. Also July industrial output was up 0.2 per cent, or just above expectations of a gain of 0.1 per cent. While capacity was steady at 83.6 per cent as expected. Accordingly the dollar continues to be well bid on view that the economy is headed for a soft landing that avoids recession and allows for a cut in inflation pressures.

Furthermore, given the recent signs of strength in the economy, the Federal Reserve does not seem to be willing to ease its credit in the very short term, but rather in the later part of the year.

US consumer prices rose 0.2 per cent in July, matching its 0.2 rise in June, and so far this year the CPI has risen at a reasonably adjusted annual rate of 5.5 per cent, compared with a 4.4 per cent increase for all of 1988.

The consumer price index for all urban consumers in July was 124.4 over its 1982-84 base of 100, the 0.2 per cent July rise reflected lower auto and gasoline prices and a fall in clothing costs. Excluding volatile food and energy figures, the so-called core rate of inflation rose 0.3 per cent in July against a 0.2 climb in June.

Federal Reserve Governor Wayne Angell said US monetary policy is successfully curbing inflation, citing the most recent economic data release. He said inflation seems to be turning down adding that his target of 4.5 per cent inflation is within reach. The Federal Reserve over the past year has been following a monetary policy that has helped bringing inflation down without causing a recession.

### Pound sterling

The pound opened the week against the US\$ at \$1.5768/78 and closed lower at \$1.565/60 compared to its week before last closing of \$1.5823/35. Earlier in the week, the pound came under pressure on concern about slowing economy. July retail sales and producer price figures reinforced the impression that Britain's economy is slowing and inflationary pressures slowing.

UK retail sales fell 0.6 per cent in July after a 2.3 per cent June drop. Output price growth slowed to an annual 4.8 per cent from June's 5.0 per cent. While input prices were up an adjusted 3.7 per cent from 5.0 per cent. After firming in mid-week, the pound ended the week easier, although it did not react to UK economic data showing a slight easing in year-to-year inflation, the news contributed to the overall long-term bearishness surrounding the UK currency.

Smaller than expected UK retail price index out-turn for July was counter-balanced by money supply data. Overall year-on-year inflation rose 8.27 per cent in July, down from June's 8.3 per cent supporting Chancellor Lawson's assertion that inflation has peaked. Bank and building society lending was high at £6.9 billion against expectations of £6.4 billion. The UK Treasury reiterated Lawson's comments that UK monetary policy will remain tight until inflation is under control, but said the data proved that inflation has peaked and will soon fall.

The pound is expected to steady slightly this week, regaining some lost ground as the US dollar takes pause from its week of strong gains. It is likely to trade in a 1.55-1.58 range.

### Japanese yen

The yen opened the week against the US\$ at 142.05/15 yen and closed the week lower at 142.55/65 yen compared to its week before last closing at 141.80/90 yen. Over the mid part of the week the yen traded weaker against the dollar. However, continuous intervention by Bank of Japan has helped to stop the yen's fall against the dollar.

Japan's wholesale price index for the month of July remained at 89.7 per cent unchanged from a month earlier. Japan's industrial output was revised upwards for June to 2 per cent from a month earlier and 7.8 per cent from a year earlier. Furthermore, Japan's broadly defined money supply rose 9.8 per cent in July a year earlier. Accordingly, Japan's money growth is still too high for its real economic growth.

The Bank of Japan seems to be ready to tighten short-term credit before the end of September if the yen continues its recent weakness. This action is probably aimed at warding off imported inflation. The thing that will really determine BOJ's stance is the yen's strength (against the dollar) and it does not look promising at the moment. The yen's weakness has open BOJ's biggest concern. The central bank's target range has been 130-135 yen to the dollar, and at the current 143 yen to the dollar, the bank is acting extremely cautious.

### Deutsche mark

The mark opened the week against the US\$ at 1.9505/15 marks and closed the week lower at 1.9507/07 marks compared to its week before last closing of 1.9375/83 marks. The Bundesbank intervened in the open market for the first time since June 16, to stop the dollar rise against the mark, and despite its continuous efforts, the mark continued to weaken.

The Bundesbank has revised down its latest figures for growth in W. Germany M3 money supply. The Central Bank in its August monthly report said M3 money supply grew at an annualized rate at 4.3 per cent in June from the average level of the last quarter of 1989, and down from May's 5.3 per cent rate. Furthermore, the Bundesbank set a new two-tranche tender for securities repurchase packs, offering bank liquidity at variable bid rates for 25 and 63 days.

With recent mark weakness against the dollar, the Bundesbank seems to be ready to intervene heavily to stop any further mark fall, accordingly we see the mark trading within 1.94-1.96 to the dollar.

### French franc

The French franc opened the week against the US\$ at 6.5850/80 FFR and closed lower at 6.5950/80 FFR, compared to its week before last closing of 6.5430/60 FFR.

French industrial production rose 1.52 per cent in June after falling a revised 1.85 per cent in May, putting the year-on-year rise at 4.52 in June. The French current account deficit was set at 0.5 billion FFR in June after a revise 0.4 billion FFR surplus in May.

### Swiss franc

The Swiss franc opened the week against the US\$ at 1.6820/27 SFR and closed lower at 1.6870/80 SFR compared to its week before last closing of 1.6725/35 SFR. Swiss July trade deficit narrowed to 670.1 million SFR from 874.1 million in June.

### Precious metals

Precious metals prices moved higher earlier in the week following a surge on New York Comex, but eased later in the week as the markets lacked incentives, after US July consumer prices figures came in line with forecasts.

Gold bullion prices opened the week at 364.25/364.75 \$/oz and closed higher at 365.25/365.75 \$/oz, recording a gain of 17 cents over the previous week's closing of 358.50 \$/oz. Silver bullion prices opened the week at 5.20/5.22 \$/oz and closed higher at 5.25/5.27 \$/oz, recording a gain of 17 cents over the previous week's closing of 362/362.50.

Platinum prices opened the week against the US\$ at 483/484 \$/oz, and closed unchanged, but recorded a gain of 5.50 \$/oz over the previous week's closing of 477.50/478.50 \$/oz.

Provided by Gulf Bank weekly market review.

## Eight berths opened

BAGHDAD, Iraq, Aug 20 (AP) — Eight new berths were opened in Iraq's main southern port of Khor Al Zubair, the general director of the Port Authority announced today.

Abdul Razzak Ali told the Associated Press that five berths will be used for exporting phosphates and other fertilisers, while the rest will be used for importing iron and general goods.

The \$270-million contract was completed by a consortium of three Japanese companies, said Ali in a phone call from the southern city of Basra.

The berths can handle 96,000 tons of urea and phosphate exports and 750,000 tons of general goods per year.

He said storage and packaging facilities were also built for the export of fertilisers, as well as services and staff complexes and a power plant for the ports area.

The Iraqi official said Iraq's minister of transport and communications inaugurated the new berths.

Iraq resumed import and export operations through its southern ports of Umm Qasr and Khor Al Zubair immediately after the Gulf war ceasefire, which took effect exactly one year ago.

## Consortium wins crude concession

Soviet, US firms to explore oil

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates, (Agencies) — South Yemeni Minister of Energy and Minerals Saleh Abu-Bakr Bin Hussainou said today that a consortium of Soviet and American firms has won a concession to explore oil in an area shared with North Yemen.

In statements published by the state-run newspaper Al Itihad of the United Arab Emirates, Hussainou said the decision was reached on Friday after a two-day meeting with his North Yemeni counterpart Ahmed Al Mahini in San'a.

The consortium comprises the American Hunt Oil Co., the Soviet Union's Technoport, France's CFP-TOTAL, and the state-run Kuwait Petroleum Co.

The two ministers presided over the meeting of the joint Yemeni company for investments in oil and mineral resources. A statement said that Yomr was entrusted to finalise negotiations with the companies that won a prospecting leader, but gave no details.

Yomr was formed by the two

countries in January 1989 with a \$10-million capital to administer the exploration in the joint area. It is believed to be rich in oil because it stretches close to the petroleum bearing zones where the two Yemens struck oil in recent years.

The project will be carried out in a 2,200-square-kilometre (850-square-mile) area straddling the borders of the two Yemens.

Hussainou told Al Itihad that Yomr was asked to finalise the covering contract with the consortium "within a month."

He added that the first stage of operations would include drawing up the necessary geological maps and geophysical surveys of the area.

The competing list for the tenders had reportedly included the American companies Amoco, Conoco and Phillips Petroleum Co., as well as two United Arab Emirates companies.

The two countries are committed to move toward gradual union despite their ideological differences. North Yemen is

ruled by a conservative government, while the South Yemeni government is Marxist.

North Yemen is already producing about 200,000 barrels per day from its Marib-Jawf field, where Hunt is the concessionaire, and South Yemen, with the help of the Soviet state-run company Technoport, is gearing to produce about 120,000 barrels per day from its Shabwa field.

Meanwhile, in a first step in its strategy to make gasoline environmentally competitive with cleaner alternatives, Atlantic Richfield (ARCO) has announced yesterday it would replace leaded gasoline at its California pumps with a "reformulated" fuel that could cut pollution from cars manufactured before 1975 by up to 15 per cent.

Cars built before 1975 are thought to account for as much as 30 per cent of all vehicle pollution in southern California, where mild weather enables vehicles to last longer.

## Prices could rise

### Five-day week threatens Oman cement exports

MUSCAT, Oman, Aug 20, (AP) — Omani cement exports are threatened by the start of a five-day working week that leaves the Gulf state only three days for doing business with the West, the state-controlled Oman daily Observer reported today.

The new five-day schedule introduced last month gives Omani civil servants a holiday on Thursday as well as Friday, the Muslim holidays.

That puts Oman out of touch with other parts of the world for four days a week, since offices in the West are closed for the weekend on Saturday and Sunday.

Traders operating through the private sector Raysut Cement Company which exports cement from Salalah, the southern region capital, warned that overtime pay for loaders working Thursdays and Fridays and the cost of idling ships in port could make Omani cement prohibitively expensive.

"Prices could rise by \$2 to \$3 a ton which is serious considering the business is competitive and we operate on low margins," the paper quoted one trader as saying.

He estimated extra costs at between \$7,000 to 9,000 per day for five gangs loading 1,200 tons.

"At this rate, we'll have to withdraw from dealing with local cement," another trader said.

Raysut plant is one of two Omani cement manufacturers. The other is the state-run Oman Cement Company based in Muscat.

In 1986, the most recent statistics available, the two companies' annual production totalled 835,000 tons. No figures were given for exports.

Salalah's position on the southern tip of the Arabian peninsula makes Raysut a convenient source of cement for North and South Yemen and East African markets, compared to Muscat, the neighbouring United Arab Emirates or other Gulf suppliers, the paper said.

## Brazil offers oil

Guarantee for loans

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, Aug 20, (AP) — The state oil company Petrobras is offering future oil production as guarantees for a \$400 million loan, a company spokesman said yesterday.

Petrobras is discussing the idea with foreign banks, spokesman Carlos Pinto said. But "it's still preliminary, in line with our effort to make more creative proposals," he added.

One idea is to link payback to future production from the giant Marlim and Alcosum offshore fields, Pinto said. Another is to offer exports of gasoline and other petroleum derivatives as a guarantee.

Brazil produces about 640,000 barrels of oil a day, or about 60 per cent of the country's needs. Most of the oil comes from offshore wells in the Campos basin, on the continental shelf near Rio de Janeiro.

Exports of gasoline and other petroleum products totalled close to \$1 billion last year, Pinto said.

Petrobras is hurting from federal limits on fuel prices. The government has been reluctant to raise prices to avoid adding to 1,000 per cent inflation.

Petrobras president Carlos Sant'anna said the company has run up a \$600 million deficit because the price of fuel does not cover costs.

## UAE recovery helped by favourable Gulf economic climate

ABU DHABI, Aug 20, (Agencies) — A recovery in the United Arab Emirates economy has been helped by favourable conditions prevailing in the Gulf region, according to a report by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The study, conducted in May this year, said the recovery had been registered in all areas other than the oil sector. It put gross domestic product (GDP) last year at \$15.91 billion, compared with 15.31 billion in 1987.

Mohammed Khorbashi, investment head at the Finance and Industry Ministry, said other factors which helped the recovery included increases in investment, industrial production, trade and construction.

The report, submitted to the UAE cabinet here, praised adjustments made by the UAE to lower oil revenues. It predicted world crude oil demand would increase due to an improvement in the market.

Meanwhile, UAE Central Bank

Governor, Abdel Malek Al Hammar predicted better banking performance in the emirates due to improvement in the economic situation locally and in the Gulf region during the year.

He told the English language daily, Gulf Times, that most UAE banks have increased their profits noticeably during the last year and had successfully passed "the difficult test" posed by the economic developments during the previous few years.

He added that the banking sector has entered the recovery stage as of the second half of 1988.

Al Hammar cited local and regional economic indications to expanding economic business and volume of profits.

He pointed that local banks have realised last year profits of \$231 million against 165 million in 1987.

The UAE Central Bank governor expected oil prices to stabilise during the second half of this year. Active foreign

trade and more business by the banking sector.

A UAE banking official warned today that exports of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) will be faced with stricter protectionism once the European Economic Community states set up their own barrier-free common market by the end of 1992.

The tightening of the EEC markets would have a negative impact on the GCC economies, said director of the Dubai Industrial Bank Ahmed Mohammed Al Bkhat in a statement published by the Sharjah-based Al Khaleej daily newspaper.

Protectionism has been a key topic of discussion in several GCC EEC contacts as the two bodies try to streamline their trade links. The European Economic Community is the GCC's third largest trade partner.

When the 12 EEC members effectively remove trade barriers among them by the end of 1992, new laws would be in force

and many of those were likely to ignore strong economic ties between some EEC members and their trade partners in the Gulf region, he said.

Al Bkhat said the six GCC members must brace for tough protectionism against their exports to Europe and he suggested that Gulf countries strengthen their economic co-operation as to integrate their markets to cope with mushrooming world economic blocs.

He believed the GCC countries — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE, Bahrain, Oman and Qatar — have together all the basics to establish a tightly integrated economic body.

"We have to make practical moves to enter the 21st century while we are better equipped to make up the development march," he recommended.

In another development trade between the United Arab Emirates and Japan increased 0.3 per cent to \$3.4 billion in the first half of 1989, compared with the same period last year.

The report said of this total, UAE exports to Japan fell marginally from \$2.71 billion to 2.69 billion in value, while imports from Japan rose by five per cent.

Customs Department Statistics have shown that Abu Dhabi's imports last month were worth over \$149 million, up 13.62 million from July 1988, while re-exports totalled 52.3 million, compared with 37.8 million last year. The United Kingdom replaced the United States as the emirate's principal source of imports.

Non-oil trade in Sharjah alone totalled \$85 million in May, with Japan retaining its position as the emirate's top exporter, supplying good valued at \$6.36 million, followed by France, Thailand, West Germany and the United Kingdom.

Sharjah's exports in the same month reached \$899,000, while re-exports totalled 4.05 million. Morocco ranked first among Arab exporters to the UAE (via Sharjah) in May with goods worth \$680,000, followed by Syria and North Yemen.



## New high expected soon

## US blue-chips in slim weekly gain

NEW YORK, Aug. 20. (Reuters): After a lacklustre week, US blue-chip stocks are expected to hit new highs in time for the second anniversary of the current record, but analysts do not know how far beyond that level the rally will extend.

Most of the uncertainty about the market's direction focuses on what would happen after the Dow Jones Industrial average sets a new high.

Would the advance be able to continue without the impetus of further declines in interest rates? And how likely are further rate declines?

The Dow, which gauges the performance of 30 premier US companies, began last week with an abrupt 29-point drop from the previous Friday. But Monday's selling resulted in modest losses.

The Dow climbed a total of about 15.5 points on Tuesday and Wednesday, but Thursday's 15.66-point drop erased that gain.

The Dow rose 8.34 on Friday to close at 2,687.97, a gain of 3.98 points for the week. But the benchmark indicator is still well below its record high of 2,722.42, set on August 25, 1987.

The view that the economy is too strong for the Federal Reserve to lower interest

rates dominated thinking in the bond and equity markets. It was supported by government reports that indicated moderating economic growth with relatively mild inflation.

The Commerce Department said the US trade deficit shrank to \$8.17 billion in June, the smallest gap in 4-1/2 years. Consumer prices rose a modest 0.2 per cent in July, reflecting lower car, fuel and clothing prices.

"We'll get to new highs next week, but the big question in my mind is just how far we're going to go through that figure," said Trade Laitner, vice-president at Josephthal and Co. "With no sign that the Fed is going to ease beyond what it has already done, the likelihood of crashing into the wild blue yonder is very much in question."

Eugene Peroni Jr., technical analyst at Janney Montgomery Scott Inc., said he thinks the market will hit new highs shortly.

"But if we're going to do it, it will have to be in the next week or very soon after that," he said. "We have to look at the interest-rate situation, and that does not look positive enough to sustain a strong market advance."

The closely-watched consumer price index was also tempered in July by a strong dollar, which reduced the cost of imported goods, economists said.

But the figures contained worrisome signs of upward pressure on prices, they said. While the overall inflation rate was in line with expectations, the "core rate," excluding volatile food and energy costs, rose 0.4 per cent, climbing at twice June's rate.

That caught some experts by surprise and dampened hopes that the Federal Reserve will further ease its grip on credit.

"The somewhat disturbing factor is that ... we have a core rate of inflation up 0.4 per cent in July, which tends to leave us in the four to five per cent annual range for core inflation," said David Jones, chief economist at Aubrey G. Lanson Co.

So far this year, overall US consumer prices have risen at a seasonally adjusted rate of 5.5 per cent, compared with a 4.4 per cent increase for all of last year.

The financial markets showed little reaction to the report. The dollar was mixed and treasury bond prices were little changed.

The Labour Department also reported a

1.5 per cent jump in average weekly earnings for US workers in July, after adjusting for inflation and seasonal factors. The rise in June earnings was revised upward to 0.1 per cent.

"It's another suggestion that the economy might not be as weak as some thought," said Jones of the wage increases.

But David Wyss, a senior vice president at DRI/McGraw Hill Inc., said he was relieved to see wage gains year-over-year fell 0.9 per cent after eliminating inflation, despite the lowest unemployment rate in years.

Friday's economic data, on the heels of other recent reports, diminished hopes the Fed will buckle to political pressure from the Bush administration to continue easing its hold on credit, economists said. The Fed is scheduled to hold a policy-setting meeting on Tuesday.

President George Bush earlier this week said he favours lower interest rates to keep the economic expansion, now in its seventh year, from faltering. Bush's budget director, Richard Darman, warned last Sunday that tight monetary policy carries an undue risk of pushing the economy into recession.

## UK jobless rate dips

## Wage growth slows

THE better than expected lowest monthly trade figures for five years this week gave the dollar a strong boost as it reached a two month high against the Deutsche mark touching DM.97 although failing to break through this resistance level, according to NBK weekly report.

The dollar ended the week at DM.959 and yen 142.9.

Business inventories rose 0.4 per cent in June following a revised 0.9 per cent increase in May whilst business sales fell 0.3 per cent in June following a revised 0.1 per cent rise in May.

Industrial output increased 0.2 per cent in July compared with a 0.1 per cent fall in June and May giving a year-on-year rise of 2.7 per cent.

Exports were \$30.91 billion in June, \$30.46 billion in May and \$30.76 billion in April and compared with \$26.71 billion in June 1988.

Imports were \$39.08 billion in June, \$40.53 billion in May, \$39.04 billion in April and \$37.30 billion in June 1988.

The figures this week reinforced the view of a soft landing and hence the need for a considerable ease in Federal Reserve policy has subsided. The trade numbers in particular show a substantial improvement with import growth significantly down reflecting slower domestic activity but with buoyant growth elsewhere, the demand for exports remains strong. Consequently the dollar has pushed ahead.

Durable orders will be closely watched but unless they are substantially weaker the number is likely to alter present sentiment. Although some profit-taking is expected the dollar remains firmly underpinned for the time

being. The broad trading range of DM1.90-2.10 established earlier this summer still remains much in place at least until early autumn.

However, with the yearly FPI and CPI numbers edging lower to 5 per cent, and further fractional improvements by year-end, a stronger dollar and a progressive slowdown in activity, "we still expect a more meaningful relaxation in policy and lower interest rates as we go into the autumn. A closing in interest rate differentials and less substantive gains on the current account along with the key budget debates coming in October are expected to ultimately cap the dollar's rise."

Trading ranges for the coming week are: DM 1.93-1.97 and yen 140-144.

Sterling was undermined by the dollar's strength this week although it held steady on the crosses supported by some intervention by the Bank of England.

A small fall in UK unemployment together with some slowdown in wage growth provided encouraging news that cost pressures in labour market may be diminished. The large number of economic statistics this week gave further evidence of the current economic slowdown and ultimate impact on curbing inflation.

The pound ended the week at DM3.067 and \$1.565.

PPI output rose a slightly higher than expected 0.3 per cent in July unchanged from June giving a 4.8 per cent increase year on year.

PPI input fell by an adjusted 0.9 per cent against a revised 0.2 per cent decline in June giving a

provisional unadjusted 0.9 per cent yearly rise.

Retail sales fell a projected greater than forecast 0.6 per cent in July compared to a 2.3 per cent fall in June and a 0.2 per cent increase year-on-year.

Industrial production is expected to increase a projected seasonally adjusted 0.1 per cent in June following a revised 0.1 per cent fall in May.

Manufacturing output fell 0.1 per cent in June following a revised 1.6 per cent increase the month before.

The falls in retail sales and factory costs provided further evidence that the government's anti-inflationary strategy is proving to be effective. However, the high interest rate levels which curbing consumer spending are leading to a steady downward trend in manufacturing growth. Despite the turnaround to average earnings, lower unemployment and slower output growth suggests increased labour costs per unit of output. In addition with several major wage settlements still to be agreed — and unlikely to be lower than current average, wage-price pressures will remain very much evident.

An imminent moderation to present government policy is therefore unlikely. The possibility of a half percentage cut in base rates sometime this autumn however remains our central forecast.

Next week's trade figures will be keenly awaited by the market. These are likely to show a considerable improvement, skewed by the dockers' strike. Hence sterling which for the interim remains supported on a trade-weighted basis may benefit.

## Jordan may prosecute Chalabi

AMMAN, Aug. 20. (Reuters): Jordanian authorities said today they might prosecute Ahmed Chalabi, former chairman of a local commercial bank.

A statement on the state-run news agency Petra said Chalabi, former chairman and general manager of Petra Bank, had left Jordan illegally without passing through border controls.

It said legal action would be taken against him, depending on the results of the investigation now under way into the accounts of Petra Bank and the smaller Jordan Gulf Bank.

The statement was issued by the National Economic Security Committee which used martial law on August 3 to take control of the two banks and order them to merge.

The committee said it had removed Chalabi, an Iraqi-born Shi'ite Muslim from a powerful banking family, from a six-man supervisory committee set up to implement the merger.

"We put Chalabi on the supervisory committee to give him a chance to co-operate with the new management and reveal the bank's problems, but he chose to run away from his duties and leave the country illegally," it said.

Chalabi, who set up Petra Bank in 1977 and built it into Jordan's second largest commercial bank, telephoned Reuters 10 days ago and said he left Jordan legally on August 9 and planned to return.

Central Bank Governor Mohammed Said Al Nabulsi recommended the merger after reporting violations by the two banks.

The committee said these related to liquidity ratios, foreign exchange regulations and other banking laws.

It reiterated its commitment to meet the needs of depositors with Petra Bank and Jordan Gulf Bank, which both faced a run on deposits after the decision to merge them.

## Envoy meets chamber chief

KUWAIT, Aug. 20. (KUNA): The president of Kuwait's Chamber of Commerce and Industry Abdul Aziz Al Saquer yesterday received the Indian Charge d'Affaires Ram S. Mukhija.

During the meeting, they viewed the industrial and commercial relations between Kuwait and India and ways to boost and develop them in various fields.

Al Saquer also received the Hungarian Commercial Counsellor Istvan Jankovics for a similar talks.

## Fed may not opt for lower rates

## FOMC to review economy

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20. (Reuters): With the US economy showing surprising strength and inflation slowing only slightly, the Federal Reserve is unlikely to opt at once for lower interest rates, although the Bush administration wants them.

The Fed's policy-making Open Market Committee (FOMC), consisting of Fed governors and the presidents of five Federal Reserve banks, will meet on Tuesday to review the state of the US economy and determine the course of monetary policy over the next few weeks.

The policy-makers may be inclined to hold interest rates steady for a while, but could decide to seek a slight decrease, economists say.

"A good case can be made for a gentle, further move toward monetary ease over the next two weeks," said Lyle Gramley, Mortgage Bankers Association economist and former Fed governor.

White House Budget Director Richard Darman criticised the Fed last week for holding interest rates too high at the risk of pushing the economy into a recession. President George Bush later backed Darman's stance.



Alan Greenspan

But many economists said the public outburst against the Fed could backfire if the central bank felt compelled to assert its independence. In any case, they said, the Fed had already eased rates slightly and its policies appeared to be working.

"It's always dangerous for people like (Darman) to get involved," said economist David Hale of Kemper Financial Services Inc.

The White House, however, does not appear willing to back down in its battle for lower rates.

"We believe inflation is on a downward trend. The producer and consumer price indexes show that," spokesman Marlin Fitzwater told reporters in Ken-

nebunkport, Maine, where Bush is holidaying. "Lower inflation should take the pressure off interest rates."

The government reported on Friday that consumer prices rose a modest 0.2 per cent in July. But excluding volatile food and energy prices, the rate was up a less encouraging 0.4 per cent and this was likely to reinforce a go-slow policy at the Fed.

From March 1988 to March 1989, the Fed gradually pushed short-term interest rates higher in an effort to cool inflationary pressures building in the economy. In June the Central Bank became worried about a slowdown and eased slightly.

The next move is likely to be hotly debated at Tuesday's meeting, economists say. The bank presidents on the FOMC have favoured more credit restraint while most of the board governors have favoured an easier stance, with chairman Alan Greenspan staying in the middle.

Governor Wayne Angell told a group in Kansas City last week he thought the Fed had been successful in its quest to cool inflation without bringing the current economic expansion, now in its seventh year, to a screeching halt.

"I believe we have followed a monetary policy that gives us some chance of bringing inflation down without causing a recession," he said.

Many economists see the Fed holding steady on policy while it tries to get a clear picture of the economy. At best, some of them said the Fed could decide to move rates lower by about a quarter of a percentage point over the next few months.

A sharply lower US trade deficit in June confirms the success of the country's cautious central bank credit policies, which have come under fire from the Bush administration, analysts said yesterday.

A 3.6 per cent contraction in imports like Japanese-made consumer goods, together with a modest 1.5 per cent expansion in sales abroad of American goods, brought the deficit down to a 4-1/2 year low of \$8.2 billion in June, the Commerce Department reported.

That compared with a revised \$10.1 billion deficit in May.

The Federal Reserve Board, which sets money supply and credit policies independently from political interference, kept interest rates up for much of the past year to control inflation. It began easing its tight credit stance in June by lowering key rates for interbank loans.

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## Wellcome shares rocket

LONDON, Aug. 20. (AP): Shares in Wellcome PLC rocketed on London's Stock Exchange Friday in response to a study that found the pharmaceutical company's Retrovir anti-AIDS drug effective against symptomless carriers of the disease.

Wellcome shares rose 164 pence (\$2.56) to close at 643 pence (\$10.03).

Analysts said the report opened a whole new market for the drug. The prospect of that added demand, might prompt investors to boost the share price to around 700 pence (\$10.92) to 800 pence (\$12.56) by the end of the year, analysts said.

Minus the benefits of Retrovir, Wellcome shares would be worth around 400 pence (\$6.34), said Nigel Barnes, an analyst at the London investment firm Hoare Govett Ltd.

"We are not talking significant increases here, we are talking quantum leaps," said Barbara Arzmayanow, and analyst at Kleinwort Benson Securities. She predicted a fourfold increase in earnings per share by 1992 from the 15.1 pence (24 cents) earned in 1988.

Barclays De Zoete Wedd Ltd. analyst Steve Plag predicted that Retrovir would help make Wellcome the fastest growing stock listed in the Financial Times-Stock Exchange 100-share index.

The report released by US government research-

ers on Thursday said Retrovir, whose chemical name is AZT, is safer and far more effective against the disease than earlier drugs had been thought.

AIDS, or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, is a virus which breaks down the body's ability to fight off disease.

Until now, AZT has been given mainly to people who had developed the full-blown disease or a lesser form called AIDS-related complex, or ARC, or a total US patient population of about 50,000 people.

However, as a result of the finding, scientists say the drug can be made available for use at a far earlier stage, to patients who carry the AIDS virus, HIV, but have not yet contracted the disease.

At present there are an estimated 1.5 million asymptomatic carriers in the United States who could benefit from the treatment.

"That represents a theoretical 30-fold increase in the population that will be able to use the drug," said Ian White, a pharmaceuticals analyst at Kleinwort Benson Securities.

However, White said the likely market for the drug will be far smaller, as most people do not know they carry the AIDS virus.

But, he said, "it may be that now there is a drug that is more effective in treating the disease more people will come forward to be tested and treated."

## KD deposit rates ease

KUWAIT, Aug. 20. (Reuters): Kuwaiti dinar deposit rates were indicated higher today but there was virtually no trading, dealers said.

Overnight was bid one point higher at 6-1/2 per cent. Tomorrow's rate rose 1/2 point to eight seven and spot-next climbed one point to 8-1/2 7-1/2.

The fixed rates were 1/8 point firmer, with one month quoted at 8-5/8 3/8 and three months to one year at 8-3/4 3/8.

Dealers said the announcement of a 150 million dollar (\$510 million) treasury bill issue for Wednesday may have sparked the rise in rates.

The Central Bank left its dinar to dollar exchange rate unchanged from Saturday at 0.29858/68.

Meanwhile Saudi riyal interbank deposit rates were steady in a typically dull Sunday market, with many operators absent due to the European weekend.

## Taiwan's new wealth causes boom in exotic imports

TAIPEI, Aug. 20. (UPI): "Baby fish" that cry in the night, green-haired turtles and ancient love potions have stirred "mainland fever" in Taiwan, while earning millions of dollars for smugglers and fishermen.

Taiwanese fishermen have carried on a flourishing but illegal trade with their mainland counterparts on the high seas for over 10 years despite a government ban on contact with China.

In most cases, Taiwan fishermen bartered watches, toothpaste and other daily necessities for Chinese wine, cigarettes and traditional medicine.

But recently, with Taiwan's relaxed attitude toward China and with its improved living standards, innovating traders have diversified into more exotic contraband.

Bored with Western amenities — easily bought with the country's \$74 billion in foreign reserves — Taiwan residents have

turned to purchasing Chinese goods, the rarer and more expensive the better.

In the case of animals, endangered is best.

So-called "baby fish," actually giant salamanders, which derive their name from the sound they make that resembles a crying baby, have been listed by the Chinese government as an endangered species and are banned for export.

Local pet owners pay up to \$20,000 for a full-grown "baby fish," more than 100 times the mainland price, according to police figures.

A popular pet, the green-haired turtle, so called for the wispy green hair that grows from its shell, is so rare that the council of agriculture has appealed for help from international wildlife organisations to trace its scientific name, specialist Tang Hsiao-Yu said.

Other high-demand items include Chinese antiques and traditional paintings,

which often reportedly are "bought" from mainland museums with bribes, and Chinese medicines that claim to cure everything from acne to infertility to senility.

National Taiwan University sociology professor Michael Hsiao attributes the influx of mainland contraband to the rapid growth of Taiwan's economy.

"People have money here, but they have no way of showing it. They end up using economic means rather than cultural or social ones to parade their status. And economically speaking, scarce means precious," he said.

Smugglers cashing in on the craze for mainland goods have been caught bringing in 311 "baby fish," more than 90 turtles and 36 Tibetan mastiffs in recent months, according to the Council of Agriculture.

The actual number of illegal imports is thought to be much higher, and a cabinet-level task force on mainland China affairs plans to tighten security along the coast.

Meanwhile, youths working in stores specialising in mainland products wait their turn to go to China in search of new items to market.

Two major underworld figures, Yang Hsuang-Wu and Hsu Ching-Teh, moved a major part of their operations to Fukien province in southern China, directly across the Strait from Taiwan, after they received numerous requests for help in securing mainland products, according to the daily.

A major stronghold for Taiwan smugglers is centrally located Shanghai, which provides easy access to rare flowers and pets from Tibet and a fertile marketplace for trading.

One member of the bamboo union gang, Taiwan's largest criminal organisation, said he spent his spare time in Shanghai reading Taiwan newspapers and watching Taiwan television programmes with other local gangsters working out of China.

## Thousands attend rally protesting inflation

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, Aug. 20. (AP): Some 30,000 people attended a rally in the Montenegrin town of Niksic today to protest spiraling inflation and increased poverty.

Speakers at the rally, which was broadcast on national television, criticised the national government of Premier Ante Markovic, which has emphasised the need to revive Yugoslavia's stagnating economy through market-oriented reforms.

Ljubisa Stankovic, a member of the Montenegrin republic presidency, told the crowd that "the incomprehensible inflation is blocking Yugoslavia's progress."

"The people of Montenegro cannot support a government which threatens its existence," Stankovic said.

Markovic, who took office in March, has come

under attack in Yugoslavia's largest republic, Serbia, and in neighbouring Montenegro for his reform policies. Serbian officials say Markovic should deal first with the country's nearly 800 per cent inflation rate, which has cut further into living standards and raised social tension.

Markovic's cabinet has received public support in the country's two economically most powerful republics, Slovenia and Croatia.

One poster carried in the crowd today said, "whatever it is that Ante is doing to us, we shall starve."

Another speaker at the rally, Aleksander Roganovic, a worker at the Boris Kidric Steel Plant, said the rally marked the last time people would assemble peacefully to draw attention to their demands.

KUWAIT						
BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
NATIONAL BANK	1.020	1.020	1.020	1.020	1810000	55
GULF BANK	0.365	0.365	0.365	0.365	240000	7
COMMERCIAL BK	0.275	0.275	0.275	0.275	30000	2
WHIL BANK	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	30000	3
K.W.B.	0.335	0.335	0.335	0.335	10000	1
MURBAN BANK	0.265	0.265	0.265	0.265	130000	4
F.HOUSE	0.470	0.475	0.475	0.475	180000	5
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
WT INV. CO.	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	40000	1
F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	---	---	---	---	---
I.I.C.	0.064	---	---	---	---	---
COMM.FACILITIES	0.430	---	---	---	---	---
HLIAH INV.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
F.A.	0.095	---	---	---	---	---
NATIONAL INV.	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.064	160000	3
WT PROJECTS.	0.084	0.085	0.086	0.084	2920000	34
INSURANCE SECTOR						
WT INSURANCE	0.600	---	---	---	---	---
GULF INSURANCE	0.320	---	---	---	---	---
HLIA INS. CO.	0.480	---	---	---	---	---
ARBA INS. CO.	0.320	---	---	---	---	---
AL EST SECTOR						
WT PEARL KWT	0.091	0.090	0.090	0.090	40000	1
WT R-EST. CO	0.130	---	---	---	---	---
WT R-EST. CO	0.090	---	---	---	---	---
WT R-EST. CO	0.180	---	---	---	---	---
ALHIA R.E.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
WT R.E.I. CON	0.080	---	---	---	---	---
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
WT IND. CO.	0.490	0.500	0.500	0.500	230000	6
WT M.P. IND.	0.310	---	---	---	---	---
WT CEMENT CO.	0.170	---	---	---	---	---
EF. IND. CO.	0.360	---	---	---	---	---
A.M.T.CO.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
WT CABLE	0.990	0.990	0.990	0.990	10000	1
PH.IND. CO.	0.166	---	---	---	---	---
WT MARINE	0.300	---	---	---	---	---
SH.REP.CO.	0.045	---	---	---	---	---
SERVICES SECTOR						
WT VERLAND TRANS	0.082	---	---	---	---	---
N.N.C. CO.	0.180	---	---	---	---	---
WT HOTELS CO.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
WAREHOUSING	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	200000	1
WT MCT. CNPK.	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.080	240000	5
WT TELE.	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	830000	28
WT COMPUTER	0.144	---	---	---	---	---
CO SECTOR						
WT VESTCO T.T.	0.150	---	---	---	---	---
WT FISHERIES	0.150	---	---	---	---	---
WT POWRI	0.230	---	---	---	---	---
WT FOODS	0.300	---	---	---	---	---
WT GR.FOOD PRD.	0.150	---	---	---	---	---
N-KWT SECTOR						
WT INTER.BK	0.064	0.065	0.065	0.065	80000	1
WT N.EAST.BK	0.047	---	---	---	---	---
WT EAST INV.	0.082	---	---	---	---	---
WT G.IV.GROP.	0.029	0.029	0.029	0.029	80000	1
WT RST.GULF BK	0.850	---	---	---	---	---
WT K.W.GROP	0.078	---	---	---	---	---
WT MEDICAL	0.034	---	---	---	---	---
KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE						
COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL MARKET						
WT FINANCIAL SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
WT INTL INS.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
WT INT. CO.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
WT MARJAH INS	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
WT UNION INS	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
WT K.WHYTE CHMT	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
WT MANAN SECT.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
WT GUAIRAN CENT	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
WT MARJAH CEMENT	0.010	---	---	---	---	---
WT GULF CEMENT	0.010	---	---	---	---	---

AMMAN			
	OPWG	CLSG	
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	2.58	2.58	
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	2.16	2.17	
ARAB BANK	193.3	199.0	
ARAB CHEMICAL DTER	5.45	5.45	
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	2.32	2.43	
ARAB INSURANCE	1.01	1.09	
ARAB INT. INV/TRAD.	0.50	0.52	
ARAB INT.UNION INS	1.11	1.16	
ARAB INTER.HOTELS	1.31	1.32	
ARAB JOR/INVEST/BK	2.30	2.30	
ARAB PAPER CON/TRD	0.44	0.42	
ARAB PHARM. MANF.	4.71	4.55	
ARAB PHARMA/CHEN	1.99	2.09	
ARAB POTASH CO.	---	---	
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65	
BANK OF JORDAN	14.91	14.88	
BEIT AL-MAL/BEITNA	1.20	1.20	
BELGIUM INSURANCE	0.95	1.00	
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	29.00	29.00	
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25	
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.34	0.34	
DAR ALDAMA DV/INV.	3.28	3.26	
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.	0.78	0.82	
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.75	0.71	
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	4.50	4.50	
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63	
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.25	1.25	
GENERAL MINING.	2.10	2.10	
HIMEN MINERALS	0.75	0.75	
HOLY LAND INS.	1.44	1.44	
IND. MATCH JEMCO	1.29	1.35	
INDSTL/DEVELOP BNK	1.64	1.64	
INDSTRL/COMM/AGR.	1.70	1.70	
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75	
INTERN. CON/INV	0.13	0.13	
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.81	0.81	
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64	
ITERMED/PETRI/CH	2.38	2.39	
J. TOUR. SP. COMPLEX	0.80	0.80	
JERUSALEM INS.	1.27	1.35	
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	19.00	19.25	
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	2.50	2.47	
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.05	25.05	
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.47	1.47	
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.20	1.22	
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	1.15	1.13	
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.18	2.18	
JOR INDUSTRY CHEN.	2.52	2.50	
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20	
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.79	0.83	
JOR LIM BRICK	0.13	0.13	
JOR MANAG/CONSULT	0.50	0.50	
JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.54	2.53	
JOR PAPER CARDBRGG	4.86	4.86	
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	4.62	4.55	
JOR PIPES MANUFACT.	2.44	2.37	
JOR PRESS/PUBLISHT.	1.72	1.65	
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.25	4.25	
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	1.29	1.27	
JOR SECURIT CORP	1.12	1.11	
JOR SELPHO CHEN.	2.09	2.07	
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	2.96	2.95	
JOR WORSTED MLL	5.10	4.85	
JOR. KUWAIT AGR.	0.85	0.89	
JOR. PETROLIUM REF	7.90	7.93	
JOR.FRENCH YNS.	2.94	2.95	
JOR.INV.FIN.CORP.	2.30	2.28	
JORDAN GULF REAL	0.33	0.34	
JORDAN DAIRY	1.16	1.14	
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.12	1.14	
JORDAN GULF INS.	1.00	1.00	
JORDAN ISLAMIC BNK	2.41	2.35	
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	1.39	1.37	
JORDAN TANNING	1.98	2.00	
LIVESTOCK/BOH TRY.	0.71	0.74	





## Diving Revival Festival

Expatriates enjoying the pearl diving occasion. Pictures show Mr and Mrs Kjell Herste from Sweden (left), a young diver with a Kuwaiti friend (centre) and Franco Caspari (right) with his friend as the divers returned home after taking part in the Fourth Diving Revival Festival.



## Land Rover launch new model

LAND ROVER has just issued the first ever official photographs of their brand new vehicle, the Land Rover Discovery.

Discovery is the first completely new model to come from Land Rover in almost 20 years, since the launch of Range Rover in 1970. The public will be able to catch a glimpse of Discovery at its first public showing at Frankfurt's Motor Show in September. Purchase of the model will be possible in the UK at the end of the year.

The launch of Discovery adds a third model to the ever popular Land Rover range. Aimed at the personal trans-



The latest model from Range Rover. port sector of the four-wheel drive market, Discovery will compete head-on with Japanese manufacturers.

## DHL expands service

DHL World-wide Express has opened its expanded European Superhub in Brussels, a \$10.2 million additional investment aimed at further sophistication of the company's international air express service.

The new hub, near the International Airport, has twice the floor space and triple the throughput of the original hub, which was built only three years ago.

It is a fully automated sorting facility designed to sort 120,000 consignments weighing up to one million kilos in just two hours. Advanced data processing can validate customs data on packages at 500 pieces a minute.

As the main sorting centre for Europe, the hub handles distribution of DHL deliveries arriving from all over the world, including the Middle East region which has its own hub operation in Bahrain.

DHL Middle East regional manager Graham Davey says: "The Superhub will enable further upgrading of efficiency, speed, and service standards in our international network."

The opening of the Superhub follows DHL's recent announcement of plans to build a new facility in Tokyo at a cost of \$63 million and a \$8.5 million investment in Singapore to boost its share of the rapidly-growing South-East Asian market.

## New method to fix dental bridges

THE ability of integration in bone of titanium was found by chance of Prof P.I. Brånemark in Sweden 35 years ago.

Prof Brånemark started experimental investigations in 1956 on implantation of titanium in living bone tissues and found a way to use this principle for clinical purposes.

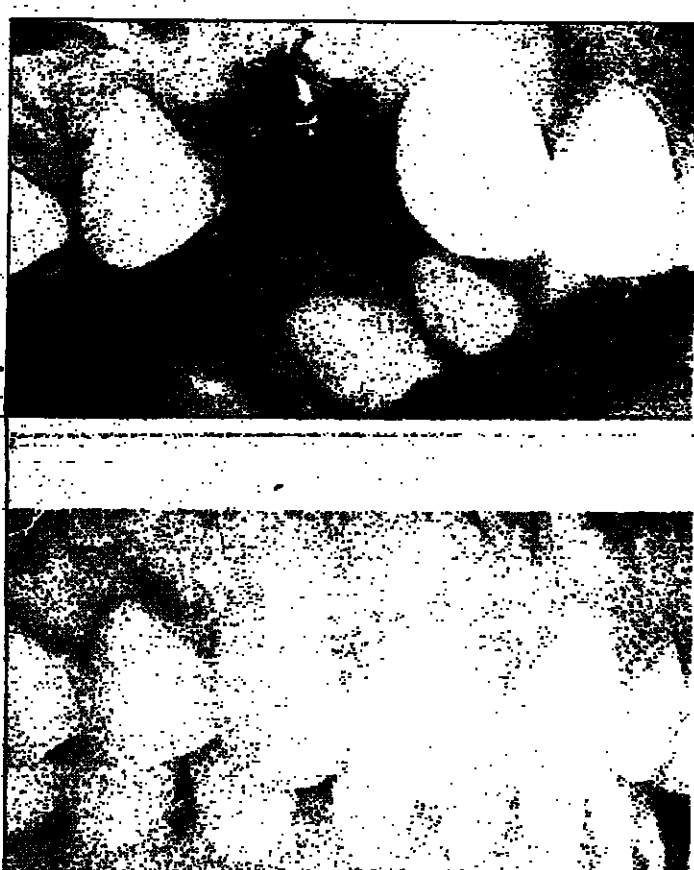
Clinical work with this method started in Sweden 1965. A great follow-up study was started and completed and reported in 1985. The follow up time for all cases was between 10 and 49 years. Bridge stability was found to be 99 per cent in lower jaw and 89 per cent in upper jaw. The function was excellent in most cases and the patients reported high satisfaction with the treatment and experienced the bridges like their own teeth.

This method is now spread to many countries in the world and a lot of scientific reports on the method are given with the above mentioned success rate.

It is essential for success that the equipment and implant material are of specific type and quality and the implants (fixtures) should be made of pure titanium with a specific surface pattern.

Also essential that the operations are performed in a certain way and under specified conditions.

It should be performed in two steps: First operation implantation of fixtures that then are left for healing in 3 to 6 months.



Picture shows a 19-year-old female (right) who lacked the germ for the permanent tooth 13. After extraction of a persistent baby tooth No 53 and appropriate healing time, one 10 mm fixture was implanted in position No 13. A 5.5 mm abutment was connected after seven months healing time. The abutment was finally replaced by an acrylic tooth built on a single-tooth abutment.

The second operation is reopening of the gum and connecting the "abutments" who penetrate the mucosa and supply support for the dental bridge. That bridge can be constructed two to three weeks after the second operation.



## WHAT'S ON

## ARTS

**Kuwait Science Museum**  
OPEN Sat - Wed, 8 - 9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursdays and Fridays.

**Islamic Arts Museum**  
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 4.00 to 7.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Qur'anic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.

**Tareq Rajab Museum**  
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am to 12 noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

**Sadu House**  
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

## SOCIAL

**Kapilku contest**  
AUGUST 25: Kapilku will hold the Little Mr and Ms Philippines, Kuwait, contest at Showbiz Pizza place, Salmiya. This coincides with Araw ng Mga Bata (Children's Day). For details contact Jojo Medrano, AVP, welfare and special projects, VCP Rosaf Austria or VP Sarah Macarimbang — Tel: 483447.

**Kapilku exhibition**  
SEPT 15: Women's wing of Kerala Art and Literature

**Promoting Association of Kuwait (Kalpak)** will hold an exhibition of arts and handicrafts at the Indian embassy hall from 3 pm to 8 pm. Those interested to show their own creation, please contact on telephone Nos: 5632708/4316737/5626620.

**Breeze '89**  
OCT 26: Tivim Centre's — Breeze '89 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salam hotel New Ballroom at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide scintillating music, lots of surprises await. For further information please contact the organisers, Cassini or Mario on Tel. No. 2441860/67 after 3.30 pm.

**Fiesta Filipiniana**  
UNDER the auspices of the Philippine embassy here in Kuwait, the Filipino Cultural Club, under the competent leadership of Buddy Patungan, proudly announces to its clamouring fans the comeback of "Fiesta Filipiniana '89" with the original cast at its original venue — where else, but at the spacious elegantly-lit Al Jahra Ballroom of the Meridien Hotel. Play day is set on Friday Sept 8, 1989, 4 to 7 pm.

For more particulars and ticket reservations, contact Florence — 2436121 or 2439451.

**Star Nite**  
DEC 21: Star Nite at Ramada Salam 'Al Dira' with Perfect Strangers music. Children entry KD.3/- from 2-1/2 years to 12 years. Others KD.4/- with sumptuous buffet. Fabulous hamper prizes and variety social entertainment under 555 sponsorship. For reservations contact tel. (res) 5331940 or 2413706 pm only.

**Flaskik's contest**  
FINAL preparations are now under way for the ultimate singing contest in Kuwait held for the Filipino population in this Gulf state.

Flaskik president Grace Fe N. Covarrubias announced that auditions are held at the Far East Restaurant on Fridays, August 18 and 25 and 11 am and 4 pm and on Sundays August 13, 20 and 27 at 5 pm. Participants are encouraged to bring their music tapes.

Last Friday's auditions yielded a bevy of song lovers who will vie for valuable prizes during the contest slated for Friday September 1, at 4 pm, at the Meridien Hotel.

For more particulars, kindly contact the following Flaskik officers: Chary Nepomuceno Tel. 5624509, Rose Formantes: 4843601, Malon Tadana: 4881358, Esther Madamba: 5312700 ext 4221. Marilyn Inductivo: 3940600 ext. 2230 & 4521 and other Flaskik officers or the event vice-chairman Al Castro of Martin Marietta Data Systems.

## HOTELS

**At the Kuwait International**  
LA PALMA: Presents a culinary trip around the world

featuring authentic Chinese, Indian, Mexican, African, Italian, British, German/Austrian, Turkish and Arabic dishes. Theme nights on Saturdays and Tuesdays. Ext 8166.

**Falaka: Rooftop restaurant** overlooking Kuwait's picturesque coastline. Offers international cuisine and elegant surroundings. Live entertainment during dinner. Closed on Friday. Ext. 8012.

**Garden Pool: Relax and enjoy** our poolside barbeque event every Friday afternoon.

**La Patisserie: Offers an** extensive selection of pastries, oven fresh bread, savouries, exotic juices and ice creams. Also serves Continental breakfast. Pianist in the evenings.

**At the SAS hotel**  
AL GHAZEER: SAS hotel's very own handcrafted dhow. Available for half day or whole day trip along the Gulf coastline. Food, beverages and fishing tackle provided on board. For booking, call 5657000 ext 416.

**AL BOOM: Dine on** charcoal grilled foods and finish off with della coffee. Open for dinner daily, lunch every Thursday and Friday and for reservation call 5657000 ext 403 or 540.

**PEACOCK ROOM: Chinese** specialties served in a very cozy atmosphere. Open for lunch and dinner. For reservation, call 5657000 ext 403 or 532.

**EEDAM: Wide varieties** of delectable home-made goodies, freshly baked items to choose from. Eedam daily specials also available.

our very own specialties.

**At the Messilah Beach**  
AL MUBARAKIAH: The only 24-hour restaurant in Kuwait, offers a full spectrum of local and Continental specialties with daily buffet for breakfast, lunch and dinner plus a la carte menu.

**Al Jawharah Super Night Club: Live entertainment** by the resident "Rainbow" band with extensive a la carte menu on Wednesdays and special buffet on Thursdays.

**Al Berdoweh beach garden** restaurant open daily Sunday-Friday offering a variety of succulent charcoal grills, Lebanese mezza, freshly baked markouk bread and hubble bubble.

## SPORTS

**IAC badminton**  
SEPT 7: Indian Arts Circle (IAC) will organise a badminton tournament open to all Indians in Kuwait. All those wishing to participate are requested to contact the organising committee for further information and entry forms: Contact: IAC office. Tel. 3904817 (6.30 pm to 10.30 pm); P.K. Koshy, Tel. 3985278 or 3913076; Vijaya Sharma, Tel. 2401534 or 2644863; Philip Cherian, Tel. 4741946 or 4330041.

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

## Islamic art exhibition

MORE than 200 artists from 22 Arab and Islamic countries will be represented at the first international exhibition of Contemporary Art from the Islamic World, being organised in London's Barbican Centre, under the joint patronage of the Crown Prince of Jordan and the Duke of Kent.

The exhibition will be formally inaugurated next month and will be open to the public from Sept 15 to Oct 13 1989 (admission free).

"Contemporary Art from the Islamic World" is a comprehensive display comprising more than 250 paintings, sculptures, drawings, prints and ceramics drawn from over 1000 works in the permanent collection of Jordan's National Art Gallery in Amman, and put

together over the last two decades by its President, Princess Wijdan Ali, herself an outstanding practising painter. The exhibition brings to London for the first time a unique survey of an increasing sector of contemporary world art.

As one art critic — former editor of Studio magazine — George Whittet commented at a recent preview: "What comes through in this fascinating assembly is the inherent characteristics of a unifying Islamic heritage, most distinctly of all in the employment of calligraphy in its literal use of writing beautifully a meaningful name or phrase and as a text of poetry illustrated on the same page by a graphic interpretative image."

"Landscape is a favoured

theme," he noted, "with some striking perspective of hills, town architecture and the mysterious recession of darkness in a desert night, empty yet alive with memory. Realism is convincing in scenes of family and community life. Overall the heartening impression is of a great range of individual creativity relying on the stimulus of life itself to the spirit of the artist resulting in much genuine self-discovery, owing nothing to the imitative pastiche of fashionable American and European pictures."

"Inevitably the exhibition must provoke much thought and induce pleasurable response to the largest display of contemporary art from Islamic countries yet seen in Britain," he concluded.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

## KTV 1

- 9.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 9.15 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
- 9.30 Iflah Ya Simsim: children's programme
- 10.00 Magazine D'Actualite
- 10.15 Asr Al Hob: daily Arabic serial (Part 3)
- 11.00 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
- 11.20 Naseeb: daily local serial (Part 11)
- 12.00 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
- 12.35 Summer Clubs: local programme
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 The World Today via Satellite
- 1.30 Sport Billy: cartoon serial
- 2.15 Al Hejra Alla Al Watan: Arabic feature film (Part 1), starring Hani Al Roumani, Salma Al Masri, Hala Shawkat and Malek Sukar
- 3.00 Mawaqif Wa Khotab: religious programme
- 3.30 Al Teneen Al Sagheer: cartoon serial
- 4.00 Meerath Al Seneen: historical serial
- 5.45 Summer and children.
- 6.30 Night chemists, airlines and official announcements
- 7.00 The World of Tomorrow: cultural programme
- 7.30 Variety
- 7.45 Holy Quran and Science: religious programme
- 8.30 Variety cultural film
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.45 Omsiyat Al Ethneen: local programme, prepared and presented by Mohammed Al Barji
- 10.00 Al Mutasaliqoon: daily Arabic serial (last part)
- 11.00 Ihtimalat: cultural programme
- 12.00 News Summary
- 12.05 The World Today via Satellite



A scene from 227 — 'The Real Decoys' on KTV 2 at 9.30 pm today.

## KTV 2

- 6.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 6.10 Bionic Six: cartoon serial
- 6.30 The Scheme of Things: rain from space, animal athletes and a look at meteors that strike our planet ... animals and sports ... space voyages
- 7.00 Roving Report: A weekly round-up of local, Arab and international news, events and activities.
- 7.30 Charles in Charge: "Feud for Thought." Charles attempts to protect the family kid attacked by his school-mate.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 Paradise: "Vengeance." Ethan plans to put an end to attacks made by a gang on the town

of Paradise. What happens when he encounters the old and sick gang's boss? 9.30 227. "The Real Decoys." After Pearl is mugged in the park, Mary and Rose pose as elderly women to help Sandra, a newly appointed maid, nab the criminal. 10.00 Tales of the Unexpected. "Pattern of Guilt." A crime is contracted against a sum of money ... investigations made by the police lead to the accusation of an innocent man. 10.30 Jack and Mike: "A Taste of Chicago." An old mafia man is freed from prison and plans to live an ordinary life. But he is chased by his old associates. 11.30 News in Brief 11.45 Magazine D'Actualite and Closedown

## NIGHT CHEMIST

**Kuwait**  
Al Hajri Pharmacy  
Al Hilali Street, Opp. to Communications Building  
Al Amal Pharmacy  
Mubarak Al Kaber Street, Opp. to the Fabrics Market

**Najra and Hawalli**  
Al Ikhlis Pharmacy  
Najra, Beirut Street, Opp. to Al Andalus Cinema

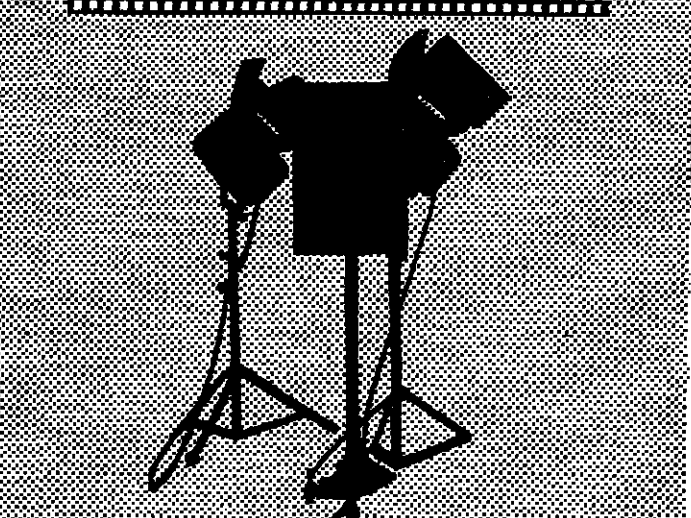
**Salmiya and Rumailiya**  
Randa Pharmacy  
Salem Al Mubarak Street, Property of Al Roudhan  
Fahad and Ahmad  
Sadaf Pharmacy  
Fahad, Makkah Street, Property of Faisal Al Daboo  
Farwaniya  
Al Taawon Pharmacy  
Main Street, Al Daboo Building  
Jahra  
Al Noor Pharmacy  
Al Matafi Street, Abdul Aziz  
Al Nasrallah Building

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The image makers  
**ARAB & TIMES**  
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## Toys fair in Hong Kong

THE biggest fair for toys will be held in Hong Kong in 1990 from Jan 10-13. More than 50 companies from USA, Japan, Europe, China, Taiwan, Thailand and 220 local firms participated in 1989 fair.

Hong Kong is a main supplier for toys. The value of its exports for the year 1988 was about \$1.29 billion. The number of toy factories is expected to be 1,941 factories offering jobs for about 35,000 people.



## Belushi movie stirs controversy

## Neither side laughs

By Vernon Scott

"WIRED", the biography of the late comedian John Belushi, is the most controversial film of the season.

The film is based on Bob Woodward's best-selling book. It stars newcomer Michael Chiklis as Belushi and a cast of little-known actors. And the outrage that swirls around it is considerably out of proportion to what the movie is all about.

Producer Edward S. Feldman and director Larry Pearce, comrades in five other movies, describe "Wired" as a fantasy-comedy-drama.

Mostly it is drama, a stark account of a young, arrogant entertainer who destroys himself with cocaine and heroin.

The fantasy comes in the presence of Woodward (portrayed by J.T. Walsh) who never met Belushi. The surrealism is heightened by the ubiquitous Velasquez, Belushi's guardian angel, played by Ray Sharkey.

Many of Belushi's friends and relatives are depicted, including his wife Judy and Dan Aykroyd. Others have been given pseudonyms for legal reasons.

The picture unrelentingly pursues Belushi, which may be both disenchanted and disappointing to youthful fans who all but defied the drug-addicted performer. Feldman and Pearce undertook the project knowing it would create waves. But they weren't prepared for the reaction of some of Hollywood's power brokers.

"Wired" was financed by a New Zealand brewery, \$13 million. It was to be released by New Visions, but according to Feldman, when the picture was completed New Visions suddenly and inexplicably backed away.

It appeared that certain movie packagers, among them one particularly muscular agency, let it be known they would be sorely aggrieved if "Wired" were released at all.

## Mutual

"Later we learned — corroborated by our mutual banker — that CAA (Creative Artists) pressured New Visions into not doing the movie," Feldman said.

Feldman found himself besieged on two fronts: the controversy over the content of the film, and the inability to get it released.

His cause was not helped when "Wired"

took its lumps at this year's Cannes Film Festival.

After months of battle, often against unseen foes, Feldman finally made a deal with Atlantic, which went bankrupt. He then hitched up to Taurus Entertainment (a subsidiary of United Artists Theatre Circuit).

"Wired" will open in some 860 North American theatres on Aug. 25.

The major objection of the critics is the presence of Woodward in the picture," Feldman said. We had to give the authors point of view by putting him in fantasy scenes.

"We have had legal problem dealing with prominent people in this town, utilizing conversations they had with Woodward. So it was necessary to put Woodward in as a major character."

Woodward appears as something of a Greek chorus or the stage manager character in "Our Town."

"We had two choices (in making "Wired"). Feldman said. "We could have done a TV movie of a guy born in Wheaton, Illinois who dies in a hotel room in Los Angeles. That would have been very boring. We choose to do a feature film using innovations to increase interest in the story."

"We shot some early scenes of Belushi's life, which was terribly uninteresting. He wasn't disadvantaged. He had nice parents and grew up in a normal way. Belushi was a man who couldn't handle success," said Pearce. "Belushi grew up in the center of the drug culture when it was almost de rigueur for young people to smoke pot and often take harder stuff."

"Wired" does not present Belushi as a likeable character. And indeed, he was not, as many people discovered when they came to know him.

## Grow

"Belushi didn't grow on people," Pearce said, "especially when drugs were involved. I talked to a lot of people who knew him."

But, Feldman added, "He was one of the most idolized comics of the decade."

"The public has great remembrance of him, but they forget one thing — he died in a hotel room at 33 with a woman sticking needles in his arm. We should celebrate his life, but I think we should make people, especially



Dan Aykroyd: objected to the release of the picture.

young people, remember how he died."

Pearce said he showed "Wired" to his teenage daughter and a boy who idolized Belushi. "They were shocked and surprised at his dependence on drugs."

Feldman said that if the picture "just keeps one kid from sucking a needle in his arm," it'll be satisfied.

"We didn't get too graphic with the drug scenes because there's a limit to what an audience wants to accept," Feldman said.

To heighten the movement and entertainment value of the film, Pearce used extensive flashbacks and flashforwards to make dramatic points. The appearances of Woodward and the fictional Velasquez keep the film moving.

"We took some chances with that," Pearce admitted, "but I've taken chances throughout my career. Sometimes they work, sometimes they don't."

"Overall, we remained as faithful to Woodward's book as we were able. For instance, we listened to three solid hours of taped interviews with Aykroyd who, incidentally, objected to the release of this picture."

## Tamarin makes a comeback

POCO DAS ANTAS, Brazil, (AP): High in the heavy green canopy of vines and peroba trees, a metallic-sounding screech shatters the forest calm.

A thrashing of branches, a flash of bright orange and a golden lion tamarin suddenly shoots through the air. Snaring a limb, the slender, bushy-tailed animal scrambles up to cuddle several infants and snack on seed pods.

Soon, four more tamarins emerge from the murky tangle, a welcome sign that this family, at least, is thriving.

Seventeen years ago, these shy, monkey-like creatures appeared doomed to extinction. Ranchers cut down their forest habitats. Hunters and pet dealers trapped them to sell at roadside stands and upscale pet shops for up to \$25,000 each.

Wildlife groups estimated just 70 remained on the planet.

But now the tamarin, a lower primate the size of a cat with a lion-like mane, is making a comeback in its last remaining stronghold, the Poco das Antas Wildlife Reserve, about 80 miles (130 kilometers) northeast of Rio de Janeiro.

Poco das Antas has become one of the few bright spots in Brazil's dismal environmental conservation record. It has also taught conservationists, who failed in an earlier effort to repopulate the jungle with tamarins, some important lessons in how to restore wildlife populations.

"This is the banner of a national campaign to protect the environment," said Fernando Mesquita, president of the Brazilian Institute of the Environment and Renewable Resources.

The 12,300-acre (4,980-hectare) reserve is home to some 250 tamarins — also known as marmosets or rosalia — and the center of an international crusade to save the animal and its jungle habitat.

The tamarin's brilliant orange sheen, human-like movements and shy, graceful manner makes it a good choice as the symbol of the conservation crusade, Mesquita said. "The US Smithsonian Institute, the World Wildlife Fund and the Canadian government have joined the Brazilian Forestry Development Institute in a project to take young tamarins from US and European zoos and turn them loose in the wilderness."

On the first try six years ago, naturalists released 15 tamarins from Washington zoos



The tamarin's brilliant orange sheen, human-like movements and shy, graceful manner make it a good choice as the symbol of the conservation crusade.

into the Brazilian forest.

The result was disastrous. The tamarins had never captured their own food, lived outside cages or even swung from tree branches. Only two survived.

The next year, zoologists trained the animals to search for hidden food, find tree holes for warmth and shelter, and balance on thin branches, said Dionizio Pessamilio, director of the reserve.

The next three groups of tamarins fared better. Of the last group, released in November 1988, 11 of 15 have survived and given birth to three infants, he said.

## Ecstatic

"I'm ecstatic," said Pessamilio, who checks on the tamarins daily via tiny radio transmitters around their necks. "I feel as if I'm watching my family grow."

In a larger sense, ecologists say, the golden lion tamarin symbolizes the need to preserve Brazil's tropical forests and the multitude of plant and animal species unique to them — many of which are still unknown to science.

In the past decade, at least 5 per cent of the

2-million-square-mile (5.2-million-square-kilometer) Amazon rain forest has been slashed and insect species in Brazil are on the brink of extinction, according to the environment institute.

The tamarin population probably will never return to the thousands that once roamed Brazil's 3,000-mile-long (5,000-kilometer-long) Atlantic coastal forest. Civilization closed in during the early 1960s, led by cattle ranchers and later, weekend homeowners.

The reserve, founded in 1974, became an island of forest ringed by pasture and development.

With just six guards and few cars to police the area, ecologists rely on educating the local population to protect the tamarin and its habitat.

Slowly, ranchers have begun guarding against poachers and replanting trees to halt erosion. Today, seven ranchers adjacent to the reserve are project members. 30 others reportedly are planning to join.

"It rapidly became a status symbol to have golden lion tamarins on your property," said Michael Small, a project volunteer from the Canadian embassy. "It was important to make the ranchers think not only of profit but of the importance of ecological balance."

At least 30 golden lion tamarins also have been saved from the hands of pet owners, Pessamilio said. One woman was found feeding cockroaches to three tamarins in her Copacabana beach apartment. Another tamarin was rescued from a group of policemen playing with the animal in downtown Rio.

The tamarins face other enemies, including forest fires and a deadly virus. But the most serious threat is a lack of territory, which forces the primates to interbreed, Pessamilio said.

"We'll need to expand the forest to handle the increased number of tamarins and, more importantly, the genetic interaction between them," he said. "If not, it's likely the species will die off."

In October, the project's sponsors plan to introduce 11 more Tamarins from US zoos into the reserve. Now that the once-captive animals are reproducing with wild ones, hopes run high for the tamarin's survival.

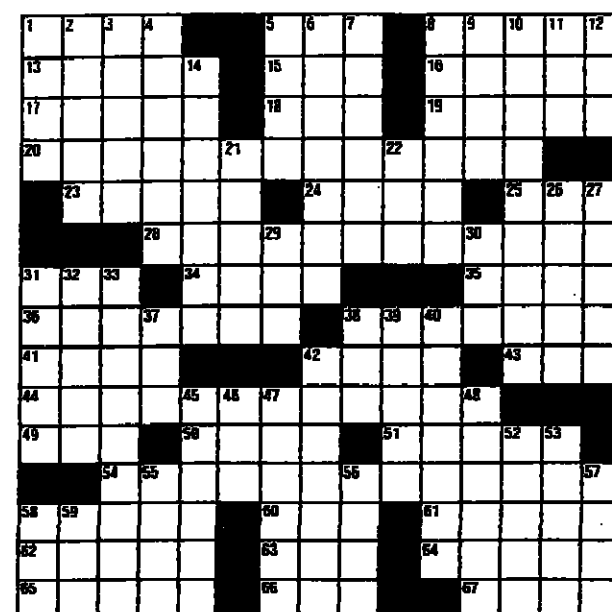
"As long as there's life in a species, there's hope," Pessamilio says.



## Germans in orbit

Two German astronauts are scheduled to carry out scientific experiments in outer space in February 1992. The German D-2 mission will be put into orbit by US space shuttle, a model of which is seen in the foreground. Four of the seven would-be astronauts, all currently undergoing intensive training, are here seen posing in front of a full-scale picture of the European space station Columbus. They are, from left to right, Gerhard P.J. Thiele, Hans W. Schlegel, Renate L. Brummel and Ulrich Walter.

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Old King —
  - Pinch
  - Emerson forte
  - In two
  - Gametes
  - Awaken
  - Glycerin lead-in
  - Harden
  - Highway from Dawson Creek, formerly
  - Virtuoso's virtue?
  - Lipstick shade
  - Zeta follower
  - Reporter's long suit?
  - Louis and Paul
  - All — (in full)
  - Rewrite
  - Part of a Jackson sobriquet
  - Sit
  - Emperor after Galba
  - Philatelist's sheet
  - "— Rosen-kavaler"
  - CPA's asset?
  - Moon vehicle
  - Be enthusiastic
  - "Ports of Call" composer
  - Avenger's vow
  - Subjects for seers
  - Ribbed fabric
  - Patrons
  - Cause of an aka notation
  - Joanne of "Super Fuzz"
  - Pretext
  - Take a dim view of
  - CIA forerunner
  - Mall attraction
  - DOWN
  - Town in Galilee
  - Reckon
  - Rubber tree's ooze
  - Proofreading corrigenda
  - Not A-OK
  - Certified
  - Gleed
  - Board cleaner
  - One-person performances
  - Followed
  - Happy — lark
  - Craving
  - Home of the Blue Jays
  - Astound
  - Base entertainment, for short?
  - Wind
  - Michaelmas daisy
  - Foxy
  - Great Basin State: Abbr.
  - Bar. of a sort
  - Pay one's share
  - Like a blueprint
  - Hawaiian acacia
  - Rotating machine part
  - Walk — (be delighted)
  - Fault, at Wimbledon
  - Likes better
  - Stylish
  - Wray of "King Kong"
  - Go too far
  - Skater Sonja and family
  - Part of a gaucho's gear
  - Alpine region
  - Close
  - Bloom County character
  - Laborer of yore
  - In thing
  - Porter

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

## ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South 2 ♣ Pass 2 ♦ Pass

you hold:

♠AKQ1075 ♥543 ♦A ♣AK6

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 ♥ Pass Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A.—We would not fault you greatly if you elected to bid four spades. However, if partner has as little as three spades, a singleton heart and the queen of clubs you are virtually a laydown for a small slam. We would opt for a double followed by a jump to four spades to show our powerhouse and slam interest.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠765 ♥AQ5 ♦J762 ♣8763

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 ♦ Dbl Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—The two things you can't do is pass—you need to add the K-Q to your diamond holding for that—or bid one no trump, which promises some 7-10 points. We know some players who would bid one spade, but partner has asked for our longest suit and we would duly respond with two clubs.

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠AK6 ♥K93 ♦AQ854 ♣83

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass ?

What is your opening bid?

A.—There are those who believe you may not open one no trump with a low doubleton. However, that's contrary to modern practice. If you don't open one no trump, you present yourself with an insoluble rebid problem no matter what partner responds.

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠AK3 ♥QJ8 ♦KJ4 ♣863

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A.—Don't shilly-shally. Partner has a minimum, balanced opening bid and so do you. If you even considered anything other than three no trump, you see something in this hand that has escaped us.

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠AK3 ♥QJ8 ♦KJ4 ♣863

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A.—Don't shilly-shally. Partner has a minimum, balanced opening bid and so do you. If you even considered anything other than three no trump, you see something in this hand that has escaped us.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠AK3 ♥QJ8 ♦KJ4 ♣863

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A.—Don't shilly-shally. Partner has a minimum, balanced opening bid and so do you. If you even considered anything other than three no trump, you see something in this hand that has escaped us.

## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart















## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS

 <p><b>Aries (March 20 - April 18)</b></p> <p>You will get on well with those in your immediate surroundings. A practical matter will be resolved with relative ease. You should not take any risks with your health. Be considerate.</p>	 <p><b>Cancer (June 21 - July 21)</b></p> <p>You are more liable to get into an argument and should try avoid doing so. Make sure your partner is able to rely on you. Do not mistake what is not for what is important. Be sensible.</p>	 <p><b>Libra (Sept 22 - Oct. 22)</b></p> <p>The prospects are good only you must not wait too long. A good opportunity could well not be recognized as such until too late. You will be more forgetful. So do make notes. Be less obsequious.</p>	 <p><b>Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19)</b></p> <p>You should not try to cut too many corners. And you should avoid getting yourself bogged down in detail. Look ahead of you not behind you except in a driver's mirror. Be firm.</p>
 <p><b>Taurus (April 19 - May 19)</b></p> <p>You will tend to tire rather easily so try to conserve your energies. Beware of falling for sales talk. Your lucky numbers are 18 and 27. Do not seek to do too much all at once. Be sincere.</p>	 <p><b>Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)</b></p> <p>You should show just a little more goodwill towards others. Do not do more than one thing at a time. You are more liable to fall for sales talk. Be polite.</p>	 <p><b>Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov. 21)</b></p> <p>You should avoid thinking negatively. Do not count your chickens before they are hatched. Leave yourself with a small reserve of cash for a rainy day. Be polite.</p>	 <p><b>Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)</b></p> <p>Do not think that life is all work and no play but avoid being too frivolous either. Try not to come into conflict with a determined person. Make sure you are not late for an appointment. Be hopeful.</p>
 <p><b>Gemini (May 20 - June 20)</b></p> <p>You will be torn between the devil and the deep blue sea. Make sure you do not take on any commitments you might be unable to meet. Make yourself a little more useful. Be reliable.</p>	 <p><b>Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)</b></p> <p>You should stick to your principles. You will discover something that will be very useful to you. Avoid succumbing to negative considerations. Be pertinent.</p>	 <p><b>Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)</b></p> <p>You are liable to be kept waiting and should make allowances. Seek not to take without giving. Avoid living too much in the past but do not altogether ignore it. Be relevant.</p>	 <p><b>Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)</b></p> <p>You will be more sure of yourself but must avoid being reckless. You should seek to abandon some preconceptions. Only if you think you too old to learn. Be correct.</p>



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

## ACCOMMODATION

### Available

**RUMATHIYA**, one room fully furnished with kitchen and tele facilities available immediately for single person. Tele. 2438120, 8 am - 5 pm. 5613895 after 6 pm. (AT1-48871-3)

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## SPORTS

## Bodine comes back to set track record

BROOKLYN, Michigan, Aug. 20. (AP) — Geoff Bodine, overcoming scary reminders of his recent racing accident, set a track record in winning the pole for today's Champion Spark Plug 400 at Michigan International Speedway.

Bodine, who destroyed his Chevrolet Lumina in a road race last week at Watkins Glen, New York, forced himself back behind the wheel yesterday and pushed a new car around the MIS high-banked two-mile (3.2 kilometre) oval at 175.962 mph (283.175 kph). That broke the record of 174.940 mph (281.530 kph) set a year ago by Bill Elliott's Ford Thunderbird.

"I feel good about being here and this pole just makes it a little bit better," Bodine said with a slight lip, a reminder of a stitch in his lip from the wreck a week ago. "It wasn't a very pleasant thing."

"I thought about (the crash) all week. Can I climb in this car and go around the track without being afraid?" in the first turn, I thought about it again."

## Karpov defeats Ehlvest

SKELLEFTEA, Sweden, Aug. 20. (AP) — Former world chess champion Anatoly Karpov scored his first victory in the final leg of the Chess World Cup yesterday when he defeated fellow Soviet Jovan Ehlvest in the sixth round.

Karpov moved to within a half-point of Garry Kasparov, the current world champion, who drew his game with Hungary's Gyuha Sax in 31 moves.

Kasparov is leading the competition with four points out of a possible six. Tied for second with three and a half points each are Karpov, Ehlvest, Soviet grandmaster Valery Salov, Robert Huebner of West Germany, Hungary's Lajos Portisch and British grandmaster Nigel Short.

The World Cup, a series of six tournaments spread over two years and featuring a total purse of \$1.2 million, is considered the second most important chess event after the individual world championship cycle.

The final competition, held in this northern Swedish city, is the third strongest chess tournament ever held, according to calculations from the world ranking list.

Karpov is the only player who can reach Kasparov in the series. His victory yesterday follows a last-year series of draws in his first five games.

Playing with the advantage of white, Karpov won a pawn in the middle game. After lengthy maneuvering, he finally broke through with a checkmating attack to force Ehlvest's resignation on move 52.

Asked if his early crisis in the competition was now over, Karpov replied, "no."

"A very heavy game, not so many ideas," Karpov added as he left the playing arena.

Kasparov was disappointed not to beat Sax. A massive score here would enable the outspoken 26-year-old to pass America's Bobby Fischer as the highest-ranked player in history.

Huebner scored a crushing victory over England's John Nunn, when he tricked his opponent with a sophisticated opening innovation.

Viktor Korchnoi, a Soviet defector who now plays for Switzerland, won his first game when he defeated Soviet grandmaster Rafael Vaganian in 62 moves.

Korchnoi, 58, the fifth ranked player in the world, had lost four of his first five games here.

The veteran grandmaster sacrificed a bishop for a pawn in the opening and shattered his opponents' pawn protection. Vaganian walked his king across the board to seek shelter, but Korchnoi then transposed into an easily winning endgame.

In the other games, Ulf Andersson of Sweden drew with Salov and Predrag Nikolic of Yugoslavia drew his game with Yasser Seirawan of the United States.

Short and Portisch agreed to a "grandmaster draw" after only 16 moves. An even quicker finish occurred in the encounter between Soviet Grandmaster Mikhail Tal of Zolotar Ribi and Hungary. They agreed to split the honors after only 14 moves.

The 15th and final round is scheduled for September 2. The seventh round was to be played today.

**Horse show hopes dim**

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 20. (Reuters) — Barcelona stands little chance of hosting the equestrian events of the 1992 Olympics after a fresh outbreak of African plague, International Equestrian Federation (FEI) official said yesterday.

FEI vice-chairman Count Landsberg Velen said the possibility of equestrian sports being represented at the Barcelona Games were very slim and alternatives would have to be found in the coming months.

His remarks were summarised in a press release issued by the organisers of the European Show Jumping Championships which end here today.

The release quoted Landsberg Velen as saying major organisational problems militated against Barcelona after the latest outbreak of the killer disease in Spain.

## Gilbert stuns Becker

## Edberg edges Wilander

MASON, Ohio, Aug. 20. (AP) — Brad Gilbert ended Boris Becker's 12-match winning streak last night, knocking the top seed out of the ATP Championship with a 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 victory.

Gilbert, seeded fifth, rattled Becker with an assortment of passing shots from the baseline to extend his own winning streak to 16 matches.

Gilbert was to play Stefan Edberg for the tournament championship today. Edberg came from behind three times in the second-set tiebreaker to dump defending champion Mats Wilander 7-6 (7-3), 7-6 (10-8) in the afternoon semifinal.

In the evening semifinal, Becker's uneven performance allowed Gilbert to gain momentum in the second set and extend his personal mastery over the West German. Gilbert has won four of their five career meetings.

The Californian has won 22 of his last 23 matches since Wimbledon, but Becker is the first top-10 player he's beaten during the streak.

Becker won a sloppy first set that included seven deuce games, then was rattled in the second set by a couple of disputed line calls and Gilbert's passing shots from the baseline.

The third set started with three service breaks, leaving Gilbert ahead 2-1. Becker held on two break points in the fifth game, then broke back for a 4-all tie.

But Gilbert broke again in the next game, when Becker sent a running forehand wide. Gilbert then ran off the next four points to end the match.

While Gilbert is on the rise, Wilander is still searching for answers as he prepares to defend his US Open championship.

Wilander, 24, hasn't won a title this year, sliding from No. 1 on the circuit after his US Open victory to fourth. The difference in his game was evident yesterday, as he failed to hold leads in both tiebreakers.

Wilander won two tiebreakers to beat Edberg in the final last year, giving him momentum for the Open.

"That's just how things have gone so far," Wilander said. "Last year I won the two tiebreakers, this year I lost two tiebreakers."

"I'm not that far away. I'm playing pretty well. I'm hitting the ball all right. You never know when the momentum is going to

turn around, and suddenly those big points are mine instead of my opponent's."

Edberg said Wilander's inability to convert big points is the big difference from a year ago.

He got a little tight in tight situations," Edberg said. "He doesn't seem to have as much confidence. He gets a little tense when you get into tight situations. Maybe he tries to play a little too safe instead of going for shots."

Wilander holds a 10-7 lifetime advantage over his fellow Swede, but has lost their last two meetings in straight sets.

Wilander's failure yesterday disappointed him because it came in one of his favourite tournaments. He has won the ATP Championship four times (1983, 1984, 1986, 1988), and has a 35-4 lifetime record in the tournament for the US Open.

"This tournament is a big tournament for me," Wilander said. "For me, it's a big deal to win this tournament. I'm always into this tournament. Losing here is very disappointing."

Edberg was shaky early in the first set, as Wilander won his first two service games without losing a point and took Edberg to deuce three times on his serve. But neither player lost serve as the set went to the tiebreaker.

Edberg committed the first two double faults of the match to force a 3-all in the breaker, but reeled off the next four points. He clinched the 58-minute set with a backhand passing shot down the line.



Edberg: fought back for victory

## McEnroe overcomes Berger Lendl outlasts Agassi

MONTREAL, Aug. 20. (AP) — Top seeded Ivan Lendl and John McEnroe reached the final of the \$900,000 Player's International Canadian Open tennis tournament with three-set victories yesterday.

Lendl, the defending champion, downed third-seeded Andre Agassi 6-2, 3-6, 6-4 to run his career record to 5-0 against the 19-year-old from Las Vegas. McEnroe, the No. 2 seed, defeated sixth-seeded Jay Berger 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

McEnroe beat Lendl in two sets in the 1984 Canadian final in Toronto, but the career series between the veterans is deadlocked at 15-15.

Lendl beat McEnroe at Toronto in the semifinals in 1982. Lendl has won the tournament five times, including the last two years, while McEnroe won it in 1984 and 1985.

Lendl, who has won 14 consecutive matches at the Canadian dating to a quarterfinal loss to Kevin Curren in 1986, returned to action this week after a six-week break and looked off-form until the third set of his 7-6, 4-6, 6-0 quarterfinal victory over Vancouver's Grant

Connell on Friday.

He rolled over Agassi in the first set, breaking service in the sixth and eighth games. But Agassi lifted his game in the second set, taking a 4-0 lead and holding off a determined comeback to take the set.

The two held service to 3-3 in the third set before Agassi double-faulted twice to lose service and wasted break points in the next game as Lendl pulled ahead 5-3. They held service to finish the match.

McEnroe beat Berger in the final of the US Hardcourt Championships at Indianapolis last Sunday, recovering from a 1-4 third-set deficit to win 6-4, 4-6, 6-4 — his third tournament victory this year.

This time, it was McEnroe who led 4-1 in the third and then lost his serve. But the 30-year-old recovered to win again.

Berger and Agassi each won \$29,930 for making the semifinals. The top prize is \$113,300.

## Graf's match postponed

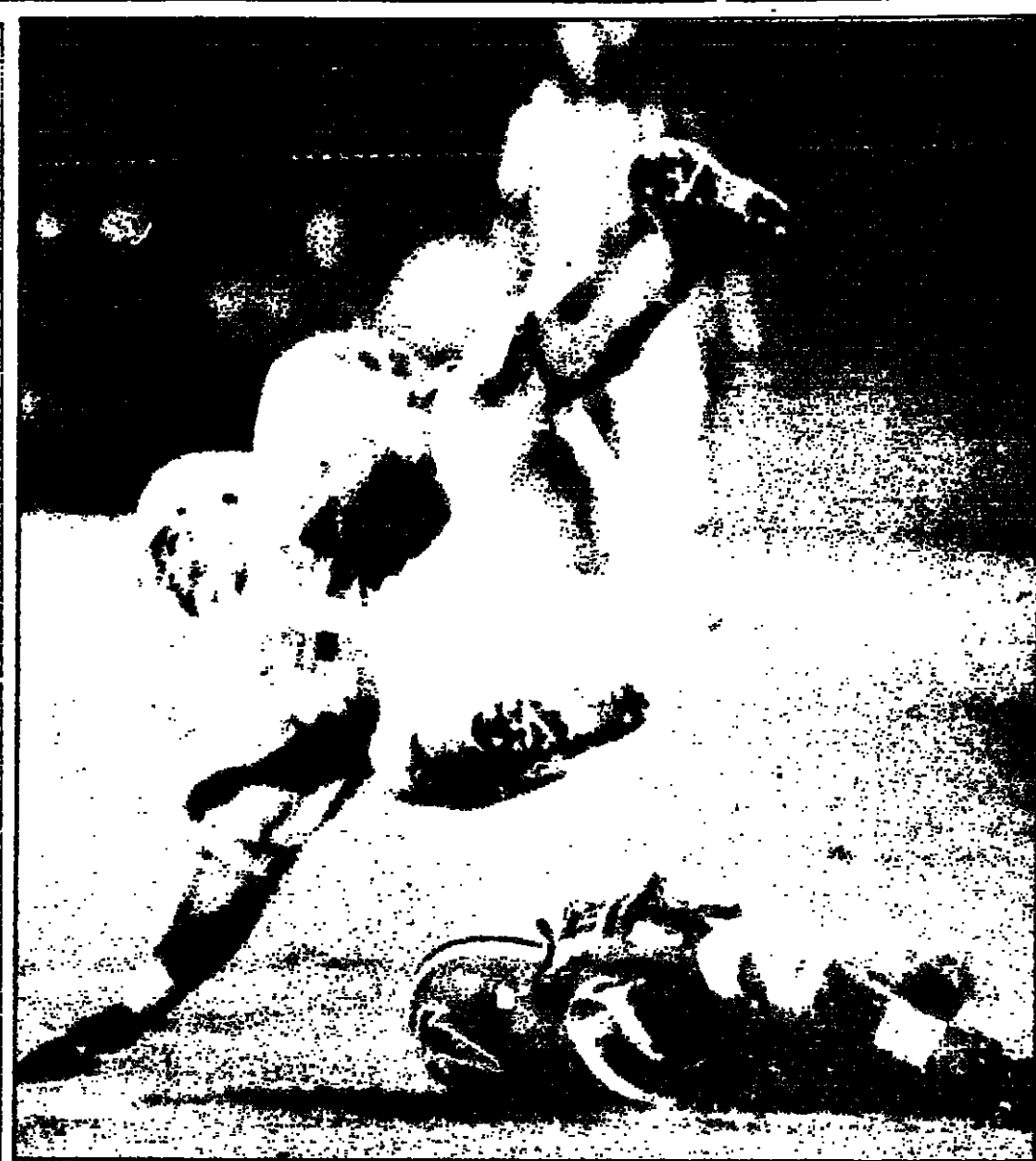
MAWAH, New Jersey, Aug. 20. (UPI) — The semifinal match between top-seeded Steffi Graf and unseeded Linda Ferrando of Italy in the \$200,000 United Jersey Bank Classic was postponed yesterday due to intermittent rain.

The poor weather at Ramapo College forced the match to be postponed twice before being rescheduled for today.

Graf, with a 60-2 season match record, advanced to the semifinals by defeating Hana Mandlikova, 6-0, 6-1, Friday. She has lost only three games in three rounds.

## McNeil wins

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico, Aug. 20. (AP) — Lori McNeil, the lone remaining seeded player, defeated Betsy Nagelsen 6-3, 7-6 yesterday to advance to the final of the Virginia Slims of Albuquerque tournament.



## Pre-season action

Tampa Bay Buccaneers' running back Jamie Lawson (in the air) is upended by Atlanta Falcon's Elbert Shelly during pre-season action at Tampa stadium in Florida on Saturday. Shelly was injured and was taken from the field on a stretcher suffering from a slight concussion. (Reuters wirephoto).

## Universiade draws 5,000 competitors

DUISBURG, West Germany, Aug. 20. (AP) — The World University Games, scaled down to just four sports and lucky to have a site, still draws a crowd of athletes.

Nearly 5,000 competitors from about 90 countries are expected for this year's Games, beginning on Tuesday.

The event usually is the biggest sports gathering outside the Olympics and takes place every two years. But this year, it almost didn't happen.

The Games were originally awarded to Sao Paulo, but the Brazilian city pulled out for lack of money.

That left the International Federation of University Sports, known by its French acronym FISU, in a frantic search for an alternate site.

Kiev in the Soviet Union, Morocco and North Korea also had been considered as possible hosts, but FISU could not find a city willing to organize at short notice the 10 sports normally staged at a Universiade.

Duisburg was finally chosen in March, but only after West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl personally intervened at the last moment with a promise of \$1.54 million in federal funds to help fill out the budget.

The Universiade in this industrial city is the heart of the Ruhr region will feature only track and field, basketball, rowing and fencing instead of the usual 10 sports.

The Games budget has grown to \$6.15 million during the five months of Duisburg's preparations.

Organisers originally expected about 2,500 athletes to come to Duisburg, but now say that nearly double that figure have applied, although it is still uncertain whether all will actually show up.

By comparison, the 1987 Universiade in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, drew a record of more than 5,500 student athletes from 128 countries and cost an estimated \$140 million. FISU had been expected about 6,000 for the originally planned Sao Paulo Games.

Some estimates predict that the next full-scale Universiade, scheduled for 1991 in Sheffield, England, could cost as much as \$250 million. The focus of this year's Games will be on track and field, with the largest number of entries that include some of the top names in the sport.

A strong US team is led by Roger Kingdom, two-time 110-metre hurdles Olympic champion and the new world record holder. Kingdom posted a time of 1:29.2 seconds at a meet last week in Zurich, Switzerland, clipping 0.01 of a second off the eight-year-old mark of Renaldo Nehemiah.

Kingdom, who is making several stops on the European circuit before the Universiade, believes he can run even faster, below 1:29.0.

"Technically, my race in Zurich wasn't perfect. I clipped one or two hurdles. If I can run 1:29.2 with technical mistakes, then a time in the 12.80s must be possible," he said before a meet in West Berlin on Friday.

## Norman and Watson reach finals

CASTLE ROCK, Colorado, Aug. 20. (AP) — Greg Norman scored an eagle on the 17th hole yesterday, made his way into the finals of the International and then summed up the situation in this peculiar golf tournament:

"Now it's on to the Super Bowl. The playoffs are over and we're going to the Super Bowl," Norman said.

From this point on, it's a no-holds-barred-type of game," said Tom Watson, who also reached the final. "Pull out all the stops and go for it."

There were some major casualties in the last set of preliminaries yesterday when a field of 72 was reduced to 34 players who were to compete today for the bulk of the \$1 million purse, including the \$180,000 that go to the winner.

No scores are carried over. All start at zero under the modified stableford scoring system in which an eagle is worth five points, a birdie scores two, bogeys cost one point and double bogeys and higher cost a player three points. Pars are worth nothing.

It took six points yesterday to make the final round. Bruce Lietzke, who had reached the finals in all three previous International, had minus-4 and missed.

So did Ray Floyd, who will captain the US Ryder Cup team against Europe's best next month in England. He had zero.

## United and Knighton get perfect start

## New owner hopes to lead team to glory

LONDON, Aug. 20. (Reuters) — Michael Knighton fulfilled many fans' greatest dream when he donned a Manchester United uniform and ran on to the Old Trafford pitch to have a shot at goal before the English League season kicked off yesterday.

But unlike the average fan, the 37-year-old Knighton is a wealthy property tycoon who had enough spare money to buy the world-famous club.

Knighton, who hopes to lead Manchester United back to their glory days after taking over the club for a record £20 million (\$31 million) on the eve of the season, was greeted with rapturous applause by the Old Trafford crowd.

Dressed in United's kit, he neatly juggled the ball and blew kisses to the fans before taking his seat to watch United's opening match against defending champions Arsenal.

Knighton's players, infected by their new boss's unbounded enthusiasm, did him proud, winning 4-1 to raise hopes that after 23 barren years the Manchester club could set their sights on the League title again.

"I got drunk on adrenalin," said the flamboyant Knighton after the victory. "It was a magnificent spectacle. It was perfect start to the season for both the team and the spectators."

Alex Ferguson, one of six managers who have successively tried and failed to recapture the glorious era of Matt Busby, was

delighted that the victory had — for the moment at least — staved off talk that his future at United could be in jeopardy.

"Everyone is glad to get this one out of the way after all. That has happened during the past 48 hours," Ferguson said. "It has been a really good day and a great start for us."

Manchester United fans remember the days of Busby for triumph and tragedy. The club won the League three times in the 1950s but then eight of the "Busby babes" were killed in an air crash at Munich in 1958.

The talent of George Best, Denis Law and Bobby Charlton took United to the League crown in 1956 and 1957 and they became the first English club to win the European Cup in 1968.

But then decline set in and United even spent a spell in the Second Division. Last season they finished only 11th out of the 20 First Division clubs, though they were third briefly in mid-season.

"We have got to start winning trophies," said Knighton, a promising trainee with Coventry City before injury prematurely ended his playing days.

"I recognise that to continue the legend of Manchester United and provide the team that both the players and loyal supporters deserve, the club must have a solid financial base," he added.

"We are dealing with a British institution."



Knighton stands in front of the crowd before the start of the game. (Reuters wirephoto).

ham was grudgingly impressed with United's performance.

"We got what we deserved out of this match, and that was nothing," said Graham who had to pull his captain Tony Adams off after just 19 minutes because of

than two minutes thanks to a Steve Bruce header and Arsenal gave the home side the chance of a penalty 16 minutes later when Adams pushed Bruce.

But goalkeeper John Lukic saved the feeble penalty shot from Brian McClair.

McClair redeemed himself with United's final goal in the 83rd minute after Welsh striker Mark Hughes and England international Neil Webb had put their names on the score sheet. David Rocastle scored for Arsenal.

Some of the most eagerly awaited names in the First Division found they needed time to ease into the season.

England striker Gary Lineker, sold to Tottenham by Barcelona for £1.5 million (\$2.3 million), was overshadowed by goal-scorers Paul Stewart and Paul Allen as the London club beat Luton 2-1 while Everton, who have spent some £3.25 million (\$5 million) on new players, lost 2-0 at Coventry.

Swedish international Glenn Hysen, who made his debut for Liverpool in a 3-1 win over Manchester City, found the pace frantic after Italy, where he played for Fiorentina.

"The tempo isn't like this in Italy," except in the top games," Hysen said. "If someone gets hurt down there they are lying on the pitch for five minutes — here they just go down and get up again."

## Bordeaux stay two points clear at top

PARIS, Aug. 20. (Reuters) — A late goal by Dutchman Piet den Boer enabled Bordeaux to snatch a 1-0 home win over Saint-Etienne and stay two points clear at the top of the French Soccer League yesterday.

The former AC Milan player's 86th minute strike caught Saint-Etienne's goalkeeper and a defender off guard, giving Bordeaux five wins out of their six games and 11 points.

Their nearest challengers, defending champions Marseille and Paris Saint Germain, each have nine points.

Marseille won 2-0 at home to Montpellier, leading with a superb seventh minute goal from Franck Sauze and increasing their advantage with an unstoppable header by Brazilian import Carlos Mozer in the 30th.

Rattled by a second half assault spearheaded by Stephane Paille, the Mediterranean club missed two chances, including a penalty by prolific scorer Jean-Pierre Papin.

Paris Saint Germain laboured to a 2-1 home victory against Lille that kept the northern team anchored at the bottom of the table.

Like Marseille, the team from the capital were spurred by first half goals. Jean-Francois Charbonnier striking in the 21st minute and Yugoslav Safet Susic adding the second in the 25th. Zaire international Gaston Mobati pulled one back 15 minutes from the end.

Nantes and Nice fought a 2-2 draw in which the team from

Brittany scored their goals in the space of 10 minutes through Joel Henry and Yugoslav Dragan Jovicic.

## Summary

Lyon 0 Sochaux 4 (Hadzibegovic penalty, Oudjani, Thomas, Frotty) halftime 0-0.

Nantes 2 (Henry, Jovicic) Nice 2 (Langers penalty, Langers) 2-0.

Toulouse 0 Toulon 0. Monaco 2 (Weah, Mege Penalty) Brest 0-1-0.

Cannes 3 (Mlinaric, Sassus, Mengual) Caen 1 (divert) 1-1. Bordeaux 1 (Den Boer) Saint-Etienne 0-0-0.

Paris SG 2 (Charbonnier, Susic) Lille 1 (Mobati) 2-0. Mulhouse 2 (Sliskovic, Krncevic) Metz 2 (Zenier, Vucicevic) 1-0.

Auxerre 2 (Scifo, Scifo penalty) Racing Paris 0-2-0.

Marseille 2 (Sauze, Mozer) Montpellier 0-2-0.

**Standings**  
Standings (tabulate under games played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points):

Bordeaux	6	3	1	0	8	11
Marseille	6	4	1	1	11	9
P.S.G.	6	4	1	1	10	9
Sochaux	6	4	0	2	10	8
Nantes	6	3	2	1	12	7
Monaco	6	2	4	0	6	8
Toulon	6	3	2	1	6	8
Toulouse	6	2	3	1	8	7
Lyon	6	3	0	3	10	6
Mulhouse	6	2	1	3	9	5
Auxerre	6	2	1	3	7	5
Nice	6	1	3	2	8	5
Cannes	6	2	1	3	11	5
Racing Paris	6	2	1	3	6	5
Montpellier	6	2	0	4	7	4
Metz	6	1	2	3	7	4
Brest	6	2	0	4	3	4
Saint-Etienne	6	1	1	4	6	3
Caen	6	1	1	4	6	3
Lille	6	1	1	4	3	3



## SPORTS

## Napoli plan action against Maradona

NAPLES, Italy, Aug. 20. (Reuters) Napoli plan to start formal disciplinary proceedings against Diego Maradona over his prolonged stay in Argentina as fears grow that the Italian soccer club may have to begin the new season next week without him.

Maradona, who left Italy shortly after the end of the previous season on June 25, cancelled without explanation a booking on a flight from Argentina which would have brought him back to Italy on Sunday.

It was the second cancelled booking in four days and the latest episode in a month-long drama which

has left UEFA Cup holders Napoli caught between bewilderment and anger.

"It's useless to comment. We would only add to a soap opera that Napoli has certainly not wanted. Now we will do what we must do — take all the disciplinary measures that are open to us," Napoli general manager Luciano Moggi said.

Club sources said Napoli planned tomorrow to report the Argentine World Cup captain to a disciplinary committee empowered to take measures ranging from a written warning, a fine, docking of salary and the exclusion of a player from training to

the termination of his contract.

Some Italian Sunday newspapers said Napoli favoured docking 800 million lire (\$600,000) from the salary of Maradona — the highest paid athlete in Italy.

Moggi said last week that Napoli had lost patience with Maradona's broken promises, his refusal to speak to the club or explain his reluctance to return to Naples.

"We don't know what is the matter with him but there must be serious problems — maybe something psychological," Moggi said.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## KIFF registration

THE Kuwait Indian Football Federation (KIFF) has started receiving applications from new clubs, teams who wish to be affiliated to the federation for the 1989-90 playing season and also for the already affiliated clubs (teams who want to register for the new season. Registration forms are available with Justino Viegas, the hon. sports secretary. Last date for submitting forms is Sept. 8. For further information call Barreto, tel 5741380, between 8.00-9.00 pm.

## Pakistan squad

ISLAMABAD, Aug. 20. (KUNA) A 12-member Pakistan volleyball team will take part in "Peace and Friendship Games" to be held in Kuwait from October 30 to November 1, according to Abdul Khaliq Khan, secretary Pakistan Amateur Volleyball Federation. In an interview in Lahore yesterday he said Kuwait had invited all Islamic countries of the world to participate in the Games.

## Belgian soccer

BRUSSELS, Aug. 20. (Reuters) Results of Belgian First Division soccer matches played yesterday:

Antwerp	2	Anderlecht	2
R. Mechelen	3	Lokeren	4
Ghent	3	Charleroi	1
Lierse	0	Standard L.	4
Beveren	0	Beerschot	0
FC Liege	2	St. Truiden	0
Waregem	2	Cercle Bruges	0
Ekeren	0	Mechelen	1
C. Bruges	1	Kortrijk	1

## Dutch soccer

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 20. (Reuters) Results of Dutch First Division soccer matches played yesterday:

NEC	2	FC Twente	2
FC Den B.	1	RSC	2
Haarlem	1	FC Utrecht	2
Willem II	3	PSV Eindhoven	4
Feyenoord	0	Fortuna S.	2
(Stopped in 83rd minute, crowd trouble)			
Ajax	1	Sparta	2
Roda JC	3	MVV	2
FC Groningen	2	Volendam	0
FC Den Haag	2	Vitesse	1

## Portuguese soccer

LISBON, Aug. 20. (Reuters) Results of Portuguese First Division soccer matches played yesterday at the start of Portugal's competition.

Porto	2	Nacional da M.	0
Braga	1	Estrela A.	0
Fairfense	1	Uniao da M.	0
Portimonense	2	Beira Mar	2

## W. German Cup

BONN, Aug. 20. (Reuters) Result in the first round of the West German Soccer Cup yesterday:

Eintracht F.	0	B. Munch	1
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## PLM Open

MALMO, Sweden, Aug. 20. (Reuters) Final round scores in the PLM Open golf tournament at Bokskogen today (British unless stated): 271 Mike Harwood (Australia) 66 70 67 68; 272 Peter Senior (Australia) 68 67 68 72; 273 Sam Torrance (Ireland) 70 67 68 72; 274 Mats Langer (West Germany) 69 67; Bernhard Langer (West Germany) 68 66 69 71.

## Muharraq in final

MANAMA, Aug. 20. (AP) A first-half goal by midfielder Ibrahim Haradan gave Muharraq a crucial 1-0 win today against Al Arabi of Kuwait and pushed the Bahraini side into the final of the Coca-Cola-GCC club competition.

## Junior player

MONTREAL, Aug. 20. (AP) Nicolas Pereira of Venezuela, the world's top junior tennis player last year, hopes to emigrate to Canada and take up residence in Montreal, according to a published report. "We're quite serious about living here," Pereira, 19, told Le Journal de Montreal in a story published yesterday.

## Records galore

## Americans set four new marks

TOKYO, Aug. 20. (Reuters) American swimmers went on a world record-breaking spree today, setting four new marks on the final day of the Pan Pacific Championships.

It was an even greater performance for American swimmers than when they set three world records at a competition in Montreal 23 years ago.

Mike Barrowman began the historic sequence when he clocked two minutes 12.39 seconds in a 200 metres breaststroke heat, one-hundredth of a second faster than the record he

had set only 17 days earlier. He went on to win the final, but in a slower time of 2:13.09.

Five and half hours later, diminutive swimming star Janet Evans established the day's second world record in clocking 8:16.22 in the 800 metres women's freestyle final.

It was almost a second better than the old mark of 8:17.12 set by the 17-year-old American, triple gold medalist at the Seoul Games, in March last year.

Evans said she had been confident of breaking the record after comfortably winning

Friday's 400 metres freestyle in a meeting record of 4:04.53.

"My coach Don Wagner and I talked about it last night and after the 400 metres it felt so easy we decided to try for it," she said.

Record number three came from Olympic silver medalist Dave Wharton in the 200 metres individual medley final.

Wharton, who has lowered the American record in the 400 metres individual medley four times since 1986, clocked 2:00.11, six-hundredths of a second faster than the record set by Hungary's Tamas Darnyi in Seoul.

It was sweet revenge for the American who two years ago had the 200 metres individual medley record taken off him by Darnyi.

The day's fourth world record was set by Tom Jager in the 50 metres freestyle when he clocked 22.12 seconds to better the 22.14 mark of American rival Matt Biondi set at the Seoul Olympics.

"I knew I had a real legitimate shot at the world record tonight," Jager said afterwards.

The 50-member US squad took 25 of the 36 gold medals during the four-day championships in which 192 swimmers from 16 countries took part.

Australia took their third gold of the meeting today when Glen Housman won the 1,500 metres freestyle final in a meeting record of 15:06.00.

Canada and China also captured three golds each followed by Japan and Surinam with one each.



Evans raises her hands in jubilation after breaking the world record. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Aouita sets world mark

COLOGNE, West Germany, Aug. 20. (Reuters) Said Aouita of Morocco set an unofficial 3,000 metres world record of seven minutes 29.46 seconds at the Cologne Grand Prix athletics meeting today.

Aouita bettered the mark of 7:32.1 set by Kenyan Henry Rono in Oslo in June 1978.

## Other results

Women's long jump  
1. Galina Chistyakova (Soviet Union) 6.71 metres; 2. Nicole Boegman (Australia) 6.56; 3. Agata Karczmarek (Poland) 6.56.

## Women's shot put

1. Natalia Lisovskaya (Soviet Union) 20.30; 2. Iris Plotzka (West Germany) 19.84; 3. Stephanie Storp (West Germany) 19.48.

## Men's 100 metres

1. Andre Cason (US) 10.19 seconds; 2. Robson da Silva (Brazil) 10.23; 3. Vladimir Krylov (Soviet Union) 10.27.

## Women's 800 metres

1. Ana Quirot (Cuba) one minute 59.0 seconds; 2. Joetta Clark (US) 2:00.70; 3. Gaby Lesch (West Germany) 2:01.07.

## Women's 400 metres hurdles

1. Sandra Patrick-Farmer (US) 53.93; 2. Debbie Flintoff-King (Australia) 54.93; 3. Schowanda Williams (US) 55.03.

## SEA Games open

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug. 20. (KUNA) A 10-cannon salute and the sound of kompang and rebana (Malay traditional drums) marked the opening of Southeast Asia's biggest sports extravaganza — the 15th SEA Games — at the Malaysian National Stadium (Merdeka Stadium) here today.

The paramount ruler, the Yang Di-Pertuan Agong who officially opened the Games in the packed stadium released a white pigeon followed immediately by the release of hundreds of the birds and coloured balloons from the track below.

Former Malaysian national sprinter Maj-Gen (retired) Sharuddin Ali and badminton player Sylvia Ng then carried the Games torch into the stadium where schoolboys held tinselled

colourful flowers (bunga mangga) around the track.

The two former athletes, dressed entirely in white, ran the lap of honour before mounting the steps to light up the cauldron on the upper right terrace of the 50,000 capacity stadium, marking the start of intense competition for medals in 34 events over the next 11 days.

A pair of the Games mascot — Johan the Turtle — led the march past into the stadium with Brunei first followed by the Philippines, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar (Burma), Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia.

The hosts contingent was dressed in beige national attire imprinted with the Games logo. Myanmar, Vietnam and Laos were also in their traditional costumes.

## Davin defeats Aguilera

SAINT VINCENT, Italy, Aug. 20. (Reuters) Argentine teenager Franco Davin won his first Grand Prix tennis title today when he beat Spain's unseeded Juan Aguilera 6-2 6-2 in the final of the \$125,000 Valle d'Aosta tournament.

The 19-year-old left-hander and number eight seed recovered from a shaky start and the loss of his first service game to take six

games in a row for the first set.

Aguilera, who won the Bari Grand Prix tournament in June and had not dropped a set on his way to the final of this clay-court event, looked firmly in command for the first 15 minutes.

But his confident and precise game crumbled as Davin eased into the match and by the second set the Spaniard was making repeated unforced errors.



## Hungarian power

Hungary's Tamas Darnyi powers his way to victory in the men's 200 metres butterfly event at the European Swimming Championship in Bonn on Saturday. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Dignitaries to attend IOC meet

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, Aug. 20. (AP) Britain's Princess Anne and Monaco's Prince Albert will be among the dignitaries attending the International Olympic Committee's 95th congress this month, an official said yesterday.

During the three-day congress, which begins Aug. 29, IOC members will discuss establishing restrictions on the participation in the Olympics of athletes who have admitted using illegal drugs. Puerto Rican Olympic Committee president German Rieckhoff Sampayo said.

Several IOC delegates have advocated prohibiting athletes who have admitted using narcotics or steroids from participating in the Games.

They also will discuss a proposal to add six permanent members to the IOC, representing each continent, and they are expected to resolve a dispute with the International Federation of Associated Football (FIFA).

The IOC has opposed a FIFA requirement that amateur soccer players participating in the 1992 Olympics at Barcelona, Spain, be less than 23 years old.

Ninety-two of the IOC's 94 members are expected to attend the gathering. Princess Anne is president of the International Equestrian Federation and Prince Albert, son of the late Prince of Monaco Grace Kelly, is at 34, the youngest member of the IOC.

The IOC members are expected to elect new executive committee, said Rieckhoff Sampayo, also an IOC member.

## Baseball results

Results of Major League Baseball games played yesterday

American League	National League
Toronto Blue Jays 5	Baltimore 1
Boston 3	Minnesota 1
Oakland 4	Chicago 4
California 7	Cleveland 4
Texas 6	San Diego 4
Kansas City 13	Seattle 5
Detroit 5	New York 4
Houston 4	Chicago 4
Philadelphia 3	San Francisco 0
New York 4	Los Angeles 1
Montreal 6	San Diego 4
St. Louis 5	Cincinnati 1
Atlanta 4	Pittsburgh 3

## Darnyi wins European title

BONN, Aug. 20. (Reuters) Off-colour Olympic champion Tamas Darnyi, who lost his 200 metres individual medley record to American Dave Wharton today, won the European title several hours later but was unable to reclaim his world mark.

The Hungarian, who has won every major championship individual medley since 1985, duly captured his third title on the final day of the European Swimming Championships.

But he has suffered from influenza during the week and said after his win: "I don't feel well at all. I'm happy it's all over. I've still got a temperature and today a raging headache as well. There was no thinking of a world record in these circumstances."

Darnyi clocked two minutes 1.03 seconds to win by over two seconds but the time was outside

his former world mark of 2:00.17, set in last September's Seoul Olympic final, and the 2:00.11 swam earlier today, by Wharton at the Pan Pacific championships in Tokyo.

Double world and Olympic champion Darnyi, who also won the 400 individual medley and 200 butterfly titles in Bonn, has now completed three successive European individual medley doubles.

East German Raik Hanemann took the silver in 2:03.07 and Czechoslovak-born Josef Hladky, who defected to West Germany after the 1986 World Championships, raised a cheer from his new compatriots by clinching the bronze in 2:03.21, 0.02 seconds ahead of Soviet Olympic bronze medalist Vadim Yaroshchuk.

Catherine Plewinski of France achieved the rare distinction of

grabbing the only two women's swimming titles to evade the clutches of East Germany.

Plewinski, who beat two East Germans to the 100 butterfly title on Friday, repeated the trick in the 50 freestyle.

She sprinted home in 25.63 to win by 0.01 seconds. Double individual medley gold medalist Daniela Hunger was second in 25.64 and new 100 freestyle champion Katrin Meissner finished third with 25.87.

Dagmar Hase was the most surprising winner of the final session, beating Olympic champion Krisztina Egerszegi of Hungary in the women's 200 backstroke.

Egerszegi, who was inside world record pace on the first length, looked to have the race in the bag but faded on the last length and lost it on the final touch.

## Norway take team title

SKOVDE, Sweden, Aug. 20. (Reuters) Petter Thoresen, the men's individual champion last Friday, led Norway to the team title as the Orienteering World Championships ended today.

Sweden's Marita Skogum, who won the women's title, helped her team win the gold medal, but only by a margin of 15 seconds from Czechoslovakia.

Thoresen gave teammate Haavard Tveite, the individual bronze medalist, a one minute 23 seconds cushion over the final stretch of the 4x11 kms relay.

Tveite, who had fast-running Swede Hakan Eriksson on his tail, was able to extend Norway's lead. He gave his country a final time of four hours six minutes one second, three minutes three seconds ahead of

## Sweden

The victory was Norway's ninth in the past 10 championships, and starting man Oyvind Thon has been on all the winning teams.

Finland was third, 1:18 behind Sweden, their first medal since they won the bronze in Switzerland in 1981.

In the women's event, Skogum set out on the final leg more than three minutes ahead of Czechoslovak Jana Galikova.

Galikova, silver medalist in the individual event, was faster but did not quite catch the Swede.

But Galikova broke away early from Eija Koskivaara of Finland, whose finishing time of 3:47:35 gave their women their first medal since a silver eight years ago.

## Former Miami player dies

MIAMI, Aug. 20. (AP) Former Miami Dolphins offensive tackle Wayne Moore died yesterday of a heart attack at his Miami home, a sports official said.

Moore, who played on the Dolphins from 1970 to 1978, was member of two Super Bowl champion teams, including the undefeated 1972 team.

Richard Dairymple, a spokesman with the University of Miami sports department, confirmed the death.

Moore's son, Solomon, is a freshman centre at Miami. The elder Moore was selected to the Pro Bowl in 1973.

## Kallicharran and Ambrose shine

LONDON, Aug. 20. (Reuters) Outstanding fast bowling by Curtley Ambrose, with six for 22 for Northamptonshire, and a century for opponents Warwickshire, by fellow-West Indian Alvin Kallicharran illuminated their incident-packed English County Championship cricket match yesterday.

Twenty-two wickets tumbled on the first day of the three-day game at Northampton where Warwickshire took charge on a pitch which played few tricks.

They were indebted to Kallicharran's first championship century for three years, the 40-year-old former West Indies captain being last out for exactly 100 as Warwickshire made 191 in reply to Northamptonshire's first innings of 51.

Northants' score was their lowest ever against Warwickshire and their worst in the championship against any opposition since 1957. Pace bowlers Tim Munton (five for 13) and Dermott Reeve (three for three) destroyed the home team's innings.

Ambrose produced his best county figures, but Warwickshire gained a lead of 140 and reduced Northants to 27 for two in their second innings at the close.

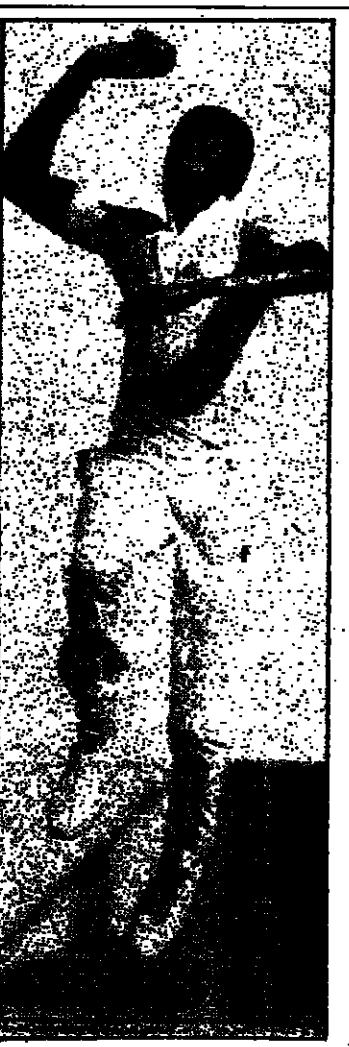
England newcomer Mike Atherton celebrated the award of his Lancashire cap with a flawless, unbeaten 115 against arch-rivals Yorkshire at Old Trafford.

Atherton, who made his Test debut against Australia at Trent Bridge last week, helped his county recover from 145 for six to 293 all out.

West Indian all-rounder Franklin Stephenson and England off-spinner Eddie Hemmings helped Nottinghamshire to hit back after a collapse against Derbyshire at Trent Bridge.

Notts slumped from 105 for one to 185 all out, but paceman Derbyshire for 165, all their wickets tumbling in the last session. Somerset captain and ex-England off-spinner Vic Marks announced at his home Taunton Ground that he would quit first-class cricket at the end of the season, and was then upstaged in the middle by Hampshire opposite number Mark Nicholas.

Nicholas played a captain's innings of 121 not out, including 18 fours, to lift Hampshire from 14 for three to 257 all out.



Ambrose: six for 22

## England call up Stephenson and Hussain

LONDON, Aug. 20. (Reuters) England today called up young Essex batsmen John Stephenson and Nasser Hussain in their continued search for new talent to halt the all-conquering Australians in the sixth and final Test beginning on Thursday.

The selectors have also recalled all-rounder David Capel to replace the injured Ian Botham and, predictably, opener Graham Gooch returns after missing the last Test at his own request.

Openers Tim Curtis and Martyn Moxon have been dropped from the squad of 13 from which the team for the Oval will be selected.

Already losing the series 4-0 and with several experienced players tied up with the rebel tour to South Africa, the selectors have at least set about laying the foundations for future England



John Stephenson



Devon Malcolm

teams. Both Hussain and Mike Atherton, who made his debut in the fifth at Trent Bridge, are 21 and nine out of the 13 are under the age of 28.

Stephenson, 24, has hit four first-class hundreds this season and Madras-born Hussain has made three despite being available for Essex only since late June. Both products of Durham

University, they played in the Combined Universities team which had a highly successful run in the Benson and Hedges Cup limited overs competition before being narrowly beaten by Somerset.

Chairman of selectors Ted Dexter commented: "The inclusion of Stephenson and Hussain is very much forward-looking. Clearly they have leapfrogged a generation which has similar claims on paper but this is a chance for them to begin to establish their England credentials."

The inclusion of Stephenson and Hussain means that England have now called on 29 players during the series, 25 of whom have played.

Australia, yet to name their side for the final Test, have drawn on only 12.

Devon Malcolm, the

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